THE NEW
SUNDAY EXPRESS

BENGALURU • SUNDAY • APRIL 26, 2026 • ₹12.00 • PAGES 26 • LATE CITY EDITION

K Kavitha launches own political outfit

Disgruntled former Bharat Rashtra Samithi leader and K Chandrasekhar Rao's daughter Kalvakuntla Kavitha with supporters at an event to launch her political party, Telangana Rashtra Sena (TRS), in Hyderabad on Saturday | EXPRESS

REPORT : P7

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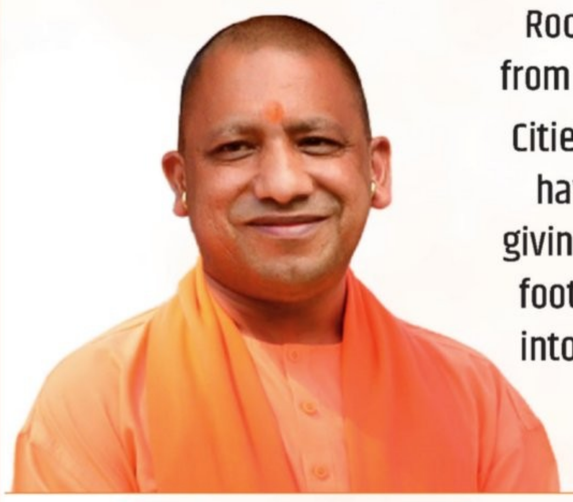
Navnirman Ke Varsh

Where Faith Fuels Growth: Uttar Pradesh's Tourism Surge

How spiritual strength and strategic structuring turned Uttar Pradesh into India's tourism titan

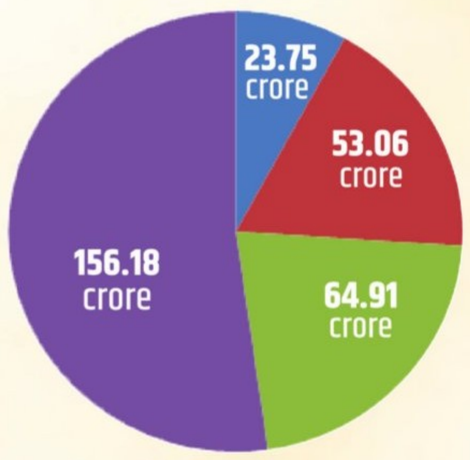
In just nine years, Uttar Pradesh has redefined the contours of tourism in India, transforming its timeless spiritual legacy into a dynamic engine of economic growth. Rooted in faith and driven by progressive policy measures, the state has transitioned from a cluster of sacred destinations into a globally acknowledged tourism powerhouse.

Cities like Ayodhya, Kashi, Mathura and Prayagraj, long regarded as spiritual epicentres have been revitalised through infrastructure, connectivity and curated experiences, giving rise to a robust "temple and festival economy." The result is not merely a surge in footfall, but a structural shift where culture drives commerce, and tradition translates into tangible development. As numbers scale unprecedented heights and ecosystems expand, Uttar Pradesh today stands as a compelling model of how heritage, when harnessed strategically, can shape the future of growth.



Numbers narrate the narrative

- To truly understand this transformation, one must turn to the numbers. In 2017, Uttar Pradesh recorded approximately 23.75 crore tourists. By 2019, this figure had surged to 54.06 crore, reflecting rapid and remarkable growth.
- Even after the temporary dip during the Covid period, the recovery was swift and steady starts from the tourist footfall rising to 64.91 crore in 2024.
- The scale reached unprecedented heights in 2025. During the Mahakumbh alone, 66.30 crore devotees visited, while the total annual tourist footfall touched an astounding 156.18 crore which is a record in itself.
- In just nine years, Uttar Pradesh has witnessed an almost sevenfold surge in visitors, signalling not just growth, but a structural shift in tourism dynamics.



Temple and festival economy: The game-changing growth engine

- Religious centres such as Ayodhya, Kashi, Mathura and Prayagraj are no longer confined to their spiritual identity-they have been transformed into vibrant venues of value creation and economic vitality.
- Ayodhya stands as the most striking symbol of this shift. From merely 2.84 lakh visitors in 2017, the city saw footfall rise to over 16.44 crore in 2024 and further to around 29.95 crore in 2025.
- Initiatives such as the Kashi Vishwanath Dham Corridor, the grand Mahakumbh, and a series of spiritual spectacles have demonstrated a simple truth, when faith meets facilitation, tourism multiplies.

Policy-backed progress: The Tourism Policy 2022 effect

The Tourism Policy 2022 provided the much-needed framework to this transformation. By promoting 22 categories of tourism activities, the policy encouraged investments across hospitality, homestays, wellness, adventure and eco-tourism.

The outcome has been significant:

- ₹36,681 crore investment attracted
- 1,684+ tourism units registered
- Over 5 lakh employment opportunities created

Notably, this expansion has also ensured greater participation of women, adding a dimension of inclusive growth to the tourism narrative.

A January 2026 study by the Indian Institute of Management Lucknow highlights how the construction of the Ram Temple has triggered a significant economic transformation in Ayodhya. Titled "The Economic Renaissance of Ayodhya," the report notes a dramatic surge in tourism, with visitor numbers rising from around 1.7 lakh annually before the temple to over 11 crore within just six months of its opening in 2024, a more than 120-fold increase.

This influx has boosted economic activity across sectors. GST collections in the region have reached approximately ₹400 crore, reflecting increased commercial activity and business formalisation. Tourism-linked revenue is projected to touch ₹10,000 crore annually in the near term.

The hospitality sector has expanded rapidly, with hotel capacity rising and over 1,100 homestays emerging. Retail, food services, banking, and transport have also grown significantly. Notably, reverse migration has been observed, with workers returning to Ayodhya for new opportunities.

Backed by infrastructure investments exceeding ₹2,150 crore, Ayodhya is evolving from a traditional pilgrimage town into a thriving religious tourism and economic hub.

Ayodhya City Infrastructure and Services

Parameter	Before 2021	In 2025
E-rickshaws	500	17,000
Schools	62	65
Restaurants	200	2,000
Hospitals	20	30
Street vendors	500	Approx 2,000
Big shops	0	1 Mall
Jewellery shops	3	>20
Banks	15	60
Clothing shops	150 (no branded ones)	500+
Homestays	0	1,136
Hotels	20	200 (including 364 star)
Travel agents	0	200
Tours & travels	0	5
Taxis (From airport)	0	400
Sweet shops	200	653

Source: IIM Lucknow Study

Circuits, connectivity and seamless experiences

Uttar Pradesh has moved beyond isolated destinations to develop tourism as a connected, comprehensive network.

More than 12 thematic tourist circuits, including the Ramayana, Krishna, Buddhist, Jain, Sufi and Freedom Struggle circuits, have been developed to offer curated experiences.

- Ramayana Circuit
- Bundelkhand Circuit
- Krishna-Braj Circuit
- Mahabharata Circuit
- Swantantrata Sangam Circuit
- Buddhist Circuit
- Sufi-Kabir Circuit
- Jain Circuit
- Shakti-Peeth Circuit
- Wildlife & Eco-Tourism Circuit
- Aadhyatmik Circuit
- Craft Circuit

Simultaneously, 83 religious routes have been widened and upgraded, making travel smoother, faster and more comfortable. This is the transformation that turns tourism from a "spot visit" into a seamless, immersive travel experience."

Beyond temples: A thriving tourism ecosystem

- Tourism in Uttar Pradesh is no longer limited to temple visits, it has evolved into a dynamic, diversified and demand-driven ecosystem.
- From hotels and transport to retail trade, prasad distribution, floriculture and services, the sector now fuels multiple layers of economic activity.
- The development of 49 eco-tourism projects and the selection of 234 villages highlight how tourism has expanded beyond cities into rural landscapes.
- Additionally, the rejuvenation of 197+ heritage sites and the global recognition of events such as Deepotsav, Dev Deepawali and Braj Holi reflect how culture is being converted into commerce, and tradition into tangible growth.

A model of measurable momentum

- The transformation of tourism in Uttar Pradesh is not merely a story of rising numbers, it is a model of measurable momentum and meaningful impact.
- Today, tourism is directly driving growth across hospitality, transport, trade and services, reinforcing its role as a cornerstone of the state's economy.
- From faith to footfall, and from culture to commerce, Uttar Pradesh has crafted a compelling blueprint, one where spiritual heritage powers economic progress.

Rank	City	2017			2025		
		Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
1	Ayodhya	17,832,717	25,141	17,857,858	299,534,307	65,487	299,599,794
2	Chitrakoot	7,148,520	4,930	7,153,450	36,578,300	294	36,578,594
3	Mathura	50,697,950	96,875	50,794,825	102,321,815	142,134	102,463,949
4	Prayagraj	42,469,721	115,800	42,585,521	689,442,197	2,053,918	691,496,115
5	Varanasi	6,971,944	765,390	7,737,334	172,752,530	321,358	173,073,888

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BILL FOR THREE-YEAR PAUSE ON H-1B VISAS INTRODUCED IN U.S. CONGRESS

A group of Republican lawmakers has introduced a bill in the US Congress that seeks a three-year pause to the H1-B visa programme

PROPOSES REDUCING THE ANNUAL CAP TO 25,000

The group argued that the programme is being misused to replace US workers with cheap foreign labour. The bill seeks to pause the issuance of H-1B visas until certain limitations are implemented. These include cutting the annual cap from 65,000 to 25,000, a minimum wage of $2,00,000 per year, and disallowing visa holders from bringing dependents

PUSH TO INTRODUCE WAGE-BASED SELECTION

- Called 'End H-1B Visa Abuse Act of 2026', it also seeks to prohibit federal agencies from sponsoring non-immigrant workers
- Other changes sought include replacing the lottery system with a wage-based selection system and requiring employers to certify they could not find a qualified US worker and have not conducted layoffs

71%

OF H-1B VISAS ISSUED IN FY 2024 WERE BAGGED BY INDIAN NATIONALS

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

Lungi Ngidi bumped his head on the ground while trying to catch. He was motionless for a while and had to be rushed to a hospital for evaluation | PTI

NASTY NGIDI FALL & RECORD CHASE

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

INJURY to South African fast bowler Lungi Ngidi dominated the narrative for most part of the high-scoring, record-breaking IPL game between Punjab Kings and Delhi Capitals. While trying to take a catch off a shot by Punjab opener Priyansh Arya, Ngidi had to back-paddle quite a distance. He, however, fell with his head banging against the ground while lunging backward. There was silence in the stadium when he stopped moving and an ambulance made way into the playing arena to ferry him to a hospital. A green corridor was created by the Delhi Police and he reached hosptial in just 11 minutes, a distance that usually takes half an hour. Much to the relief of fans, the hospital said he was stable and would be released soon.

On the ground it was insane as batters exploded. The contest lasted 38.5 overs across two innings and saw 529 runs scored. Punjab chased a record total of 265 set by Delhi with seven balls to spare. If K L Rahul scored the third-highest individual score (152*) in IPL, Shreyas Iyer led his team and never gave up. P13

Team Trump upended as Iran FM flies off without waiting

Snubbed US president calls off trip by Witkoff and Kushner to Islamabad

AGENCIES @ Islamabad/Washington

ALL hopes for a second round of peace talks between the US and Iran were dashed on Saturday after Iranian foreign minister Abbas Araghchi departed from Islamabad without waiting for the US delegation to arrive.

Snubbed US President Donald Trump was forced to announce that he was cancelling the proposed trip by special envoy Steve Witkoff and son-in-law Jared Kushner to Islamabad.

After holding talks with Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Chief of Defence Forces Field Marshal Asim Munir, Araghchi requested them to convey Tehran's views to the US.

According to a statement from the Iranian foreign ministry, Araghchi thanked Pakistan for its efforts to establish the ceasefire, but also "explained our country's principled positions regarding the latest developments related to the ceasefire and the complete end of the imposed war".

He said Iran is "yet to see if the US is truly serious about diplomacy".

Trump told *Fox News* that he had called off the trip by Witkoff and Kushner, claiming it's not worth them making an 18-hour flight to go there when "the US holds all the cards".

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, left, holds talks with Pakistan's Army Chief Field Marshal Asim Munir in Islamabad, Pakistan on Saturday | AP

DAY 57 | WAR WATCH

"We have all the cards. They can call us anytime they want...," *Fox News* reported the president as saying in a phone call.

Trump reiterated his claims of infighting within the Iranian leadership. "There is tremendous infighting and confusion within their leadership. Nobody knows who is in charge, including them," Trump wrote on his Truth Social platform.

The White House had earlier said Witkoff and Kushner would hold talks with the Iranian delegation. However, Iran's foreign ministry ruled out a direct meeting, saying it cannot take place as long as the US continues its blockade of the Iranian ports.

Trump, however, said the cancellation of talks did not mean an immediate resumption of war.

Meanwhile, the Iranian military threatened to respond if the US maintained its blockade of the Iranian ports.

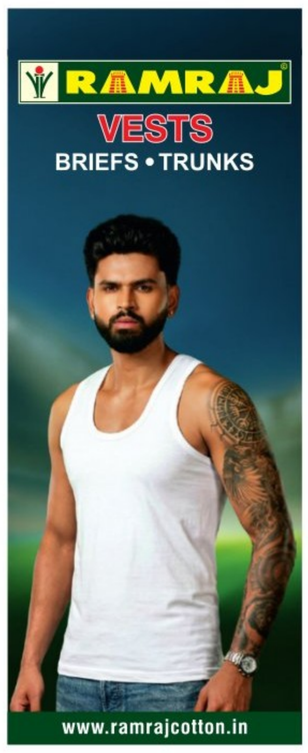
Student's janivara cut at Ch'ballapur CET centre

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chikkaballapur

IN yet another incident of harassment by college authorities, a student was asked to remove his janivara (the sacred thread) at a Common Entrance Test centre in Chikkaballapur on Thursday. To add insult to injury, a woman official at the centre cut the sacred thread before allowing the student to write the test.

Ironically, Higher Education Minister Dr MC Sudhakar is the district in-charge minister of Chikkaballapur and the humiliated student, Suprith, hails from Chintamani -- the minister's constituency.

Suprith said his Upanayana, a religious ceremony to allow him to wear the janivara, was held only a week ago. He said he was hurt immensely when he was asked to remove the sacred thread and the officials made it worse by cutting it. P6



IMD issues heatwave alert for the Northwest

JITENDRA CHOUBEY @ New Delhi

THE India Meteorological Department on Saturday issued detailed heatwave guidance and advisories as several parts of the country are facing abnormally high temperatures. However, the Northwest could get gradual relief after April 27.

According to the latest assessment, maximum temperatures in many areas of northwest, central, and peninsular India are ranging from 40°C to 44°C, with the highest of 44.5°C recorded at Sri Ganganagar in Rajasthan. In several regions, temperatures are above normal by at least 5°C, indicating heat stress across the country.

Heatwave conditions are likely in isolated areas of J&K, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, and central India over the coming days. Additionally, hot and humid weather is expected in coastal and eastern regions, while warm nighttime conditions are likely in parts of north India, further increasing discomfort and health risks.

In its extended outlook, the IMD stated that heatwave-like conditions will persist across multiple regions for the next seven days.

This includes areas in Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Rajasthan, and UP in the Northwest, as well as Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Vidarbha, and Kerala & Mahe in the South.

Moreover, hot and humid weather conditions are anticipated in coastal states, including Odisha, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, and Andhra Pradesh, while warm nighttime conditions may continue in the northern plains.

Girls cover themselves on a hot summer day, in Uttar Pradesh's Prayagraj on Saturday | PTI

Avoid direct exposure to sunlight

In its advisory, the IMD recommends taking extra precautions for the elderly and children, avoiding direct exposure to sunlight, especially during peak afternoon hours, and refraining from hard physical work outdoors

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'Doping' shadow over T'kuru athletics meet

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Tumakuru

FOUR to five used syringes and needles were found inside a restroom at the Mahatma Gandhi Stadium, raising suspicion of performance-enhancement drugs being used by athletes at the three-day 24th National Junior (U-20) Athletics Federation Competition 2026 that got off to a flying start here on Friday.

Over 1,000 track and field athletes, including male and female, from across the country are taking part in the event, which is a qualifier for the next month's Asian U20 Athletics Championship in Hong Kong and World Athletics U20 championships at Hayward Field in Eugene, Oregon, United States from August 5-9.

Used syringes and needles found in a restroom at MG Stadium in Tumakuru

FULL REPORT: P5

Lahiri vice chair in Niti Aayog shake-up

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

IN a major administrative overhaul, former Chief Economic Adviser **Ashok Lahiri** was on Saturday appointed the vice-chairman of Niti Aayog. He will succeed current vice - chairman Suman Bery. Prime Minister is the chairman of the Niti Aayog.

An active member of the BJP in West Bengal, Lahiri is currently serving as an MLA from Balurghat. However, he is not contesting the ongoing assembly elections. He served as India's Chief Economic Adviser from 2002 to 2007, spanning the tenures of former prime ministers Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Manmohan Singh. He was also a member of the Fifteenth Finance Commission.

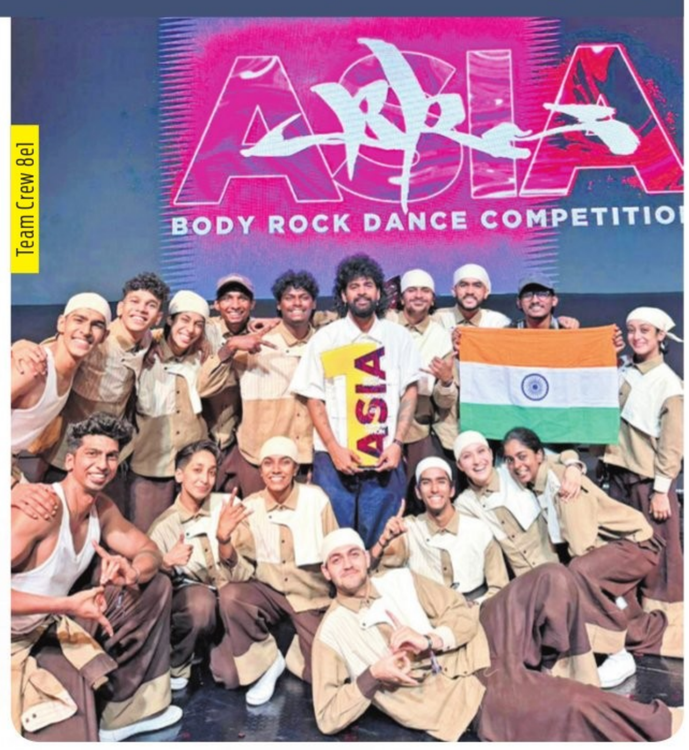
ALMANAC TODAY
Sunday: 26.04.2026 **Year:** Parabhava **Ayana:** Uttharayana
Ritu: Vasantha **Masa:** Vaishaka **Paksha:** Sukla **Tithi:** Dasami 8.37 pm
Nakshatra: Makha 10.52 pm **Moon in Kanya Rashi** **Rahukaala:** 04:30 pm to 06:00 pm
Gulikakala: 03:00 pm to 04:30 pm **Yamaganda:** 12:00 pm to 01:30 pm

WEATHER MIN 22°C | MAX 36°C
FORECAST Cloudy
Sunrise 06.01 am | Sunset 06.33 pm | Moonrise 02.18 pm | Moonset 02.16 am

Crew 8e1 is one of the only two teams representing Asia at the world finals of Body Rock championship to be held in California in June and the 16-member team is on its toes to bring alive the struggles of Sri Lankan Tamil refugees on one of the most prestigious platforms in competitive choreography

DANCING AGAINST THE ODDS

GAYATHRI M KURUP @Bengaluru



Team Crew 8e1

A REAL-LIFE version of the Bollywood movie ABCD (Any Body Can Dance) is coming to life as a Bengaluru-based dance crew sets its sights on the global stage, marking a defining moment for India in international competitive dance. Crew 8e1 has been selected to compete in the globally renowned Body Rock championship, widely regarded as one of the most prestigious platforms in competitive choreography. Ready to represent India and all of Asia, Crew 8e1 will be the first Indian team to participate in the Championship.

Their journey to the top has been anything but easy. The 16-member crew recently clinched first place at Body Rock Asia, held in the Philippines, emerging as one of only two teams chosen to represent Asia at the world finals. For a country that is rich in its dance diversity but ironically struggles for global competitive recognition, this achievement signals a breakthrough.

For Mithran Surendhar, the lead dancer and one of the choreographers of the team, simply stepping onto the BodyRock stage was once a distant dream. "This competition has inspired dancers across the world for years. Many teams in India were born after watching performances from this stage. So just being there was already a huge milestone," he says.

BodyRock is known for its intense selection process. The team first qualified through a video audition round, where over a hundred crews competed for limited spots. Only the top entries were shortlisted, after which the finalists were invited to perform a dance piece on stage. Crew 8e1 not only rose to the challenge but also stood out among global competitors, ultimately taking home the top prize.

The crew chose to base their choreography on the struggles of Sri Lankan Tamil refugees, a subject rarely explored on international dance platforms. Blending high-energy street choreography with a deeply emotional narrative, the performance struck a chord with audiences across cultures. "We wanted to tell a story that we connect with, something real," Mithran explains. "Dance is a powerful medium, and we felt this was a story that needed to be seen and understood."

To ensure the message reached a global audience, the team incorporated English subtitles into their performance,.

Most members of the crew juggle full-time jobs or academic commitments, leaving them with only a few hours each day to rehearse. "We practised from 8 pm to 10 pm every day for two months. That was the only time everyone could come together," he says.

When drawing a comparison with ABCD, it wasn't just about the idea of representing India on a global stage; it was also about the reality that runs parallel to it: the financial struggle. Much like in the film, the team's biggest hurdle wasn't talent, but the lack of resources and support. They had aimed to raise Rs 10 lakh for travel and participation, but managed to gather only a fraction, with a potential sponsor backing out just weeks before the competition. What followed was a last-minute scramble to stay afloat.

Despite this, they pushed through, driven by belief in their art. And what's striking is that even after their win, they still don't have a sponsor. Over a decade since ABCD was released, the situation for dancers and dance crews seems to have barely changed; passion continues to outpace support.

Their victory has also reignited conversations around the lack of institutional support for dancers in India. While athletes representing the country often receive funding and recognition, artists largely rely on personal resources and community support. "When you step onto a stage like this, you're not just representing your team, you're representing India. There should be more support for that," Mithran says, pointing out that teams from countries like Malaysia are funded by their governments.

With the Asia title now behind them, Crew 8e1 is preparing for the world finals in California this June. The stakes are higher, the competition tougher, and the costs even greater. The team plans to expand and refine their winning piece for the global stage, but much depends on securing the necessary funding in time.

Still, their focus remains clear. "We just want to go there and give our best. Winning is not something we can predict; it depends on the day. But we want to show what India is capable of," he says.

As they get ready to take on the world, Crew 8e1 carries more than just choreography to the stage. They carry years of aspiration, the weight of limited opportunities, and the hope of opening doors for many such dancers, a hope that anybody can dance, as long as you love the art.

For now, their story stands as both an achievement and a reminder that with the right support, India's dance community has the potential to command a much larger place on the global stage.

THE WHOLE TEAM INCLUDES
Director: Sandy Sundar
Crew: Aadrita, Aarambh, Arun, Bharath , Elton Fenandes, Fida Firos, Hirditya, Jaanvi Pansari, Kishan Seby, Krish V Jain, Mithran Surendhar, Priyachandran, Sasikumar Babu,Sanjana, Shreddha Sunil, Syed Nafeez
Crew Assist: Arshak

Crew 8e1 co-founders Arun and Mithran

Saving heritage in sync with nature

A team of forest officials has launched work on restoring structures built in the British era at Belagavi's Nagargali forest without disturbing their original charm

TUSHAR A MAJUKAR @ Belagavi

NESTLED in the scenic expanse of Belagavi district, Nagargali is a breathtaking blend of dense forest, rich biodiversity, and historical legacy.

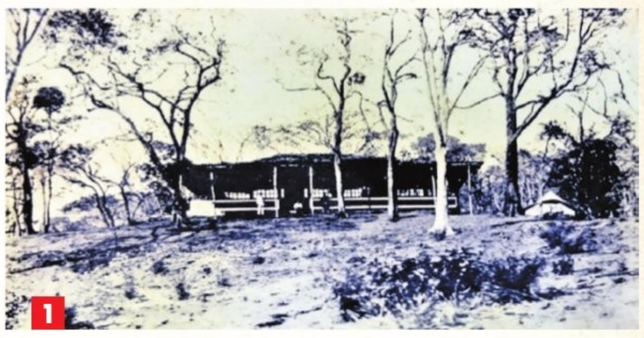
Far from urban hustle and bustle, this lesser-known region stands as a sanctuary for nature and heritage. From flourishing flora and fauna to century-old structures such as bridges, temples and forest offices, Nagargali offers a unique glimpse into a harmonious coexistence between nature and mankind.

What truly sustains this hidden treasure is not just its natural wealth, but relentless efforts of the forest department staff and the unwavering support from local residents. Together, they serve as guardians of this biodiversity-rich forest.

In the Nagargali forest range, the responsibility of foresters goes far beyond their official duty. They have been working for years with dedication and often under challenging conditions. What sets them apart is their emotional bond with the forest.

Nagargali is teeming with wildlife, making it an ecologically sensitive and vibrant region. Sloth bears, wild dogs, elephants, tigers and other animals are sighted here. The region is also steeped in history. The forest guesthouse, built in 1914 during the British era, is a symbol of the region's past. Interestingly, when it was constructed, the forest was much less dense than it is today -- a testament to how conservation efforts have paid off. Other heritage structures include the old timber depot, roads and Lakadi Pool Bridge, all of which date back to the colonial times.

Chief Conservator of Forests Manjunath Chavan and Deputy Conservator of Forests NE Kranthi have launched projects to restore them, while the work on the old timber depot office and the guesthouse have been completed.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1. The guesthouse built by the British in 1914 at Nagargali **2.** The restored guesthouse **3.** The timber depot **4.** A new trench dug to prevent elephants from crossing

Tourism

Assistant Conservator of Forests Shivanand Magadum said Nagargali's pristine beauty has begun attracting tourists and adventure enthusiasts. Visitors often trek through the dense forest, exploring hidden spots such as the Vajra Waterfalls and sacred sites like Handi Bhadangnath Temple.

However, the department has imposed restrictions on entry into the forest. As Nagargali is a reserved forest, there is no scope for unauthorised access. Such measures are necessary to prevent accidents and to protect visitors as well as wildlife, he said.

Challenges

Forest staff here keep regular track of movement of animals such as elephants, sloth bears and tigers.

They face a major challenge during summer when elephants from nearby regions, including Dandeli, migrate to Nagargali in search of water and food. Their movement often leads to conflicts with local residents.

To address this issue, the department recently dug a 4.5-km trench to prevent elephants from straying into villages.

The forest department conducts regular awareness campaigns, village meetings, and collaborative activities to earn the goodwill of local residents. The department also provides employment to local people, including tribals, living in and around the forest.

EXPRESS READ

3.5 tonne of waste cleared in spl drive

BENGALURU: To secure a better ranking in Swachh Survekshan 2025–26, a special cleanliness drive was undertaken by Bengaluru Central City Corporation (BCCC), cleaning 26 road medians and traffic islands on Saturday. Additional Commissioner (Development) Daljit Kumar said that along with the drive, awareness was raised among the public, discouraging littering in these areas. A total of 291 Pourakamikas and sanitation staff took part in the drive. Approximately 3.5 tonnes of waste were collected and disposed of during the operation.

Man obstructing census work booked

BENGALURU: A case was registered for obstructing and verbally abusing a female enumerator engaged in the National Census–2027 duty in Bengaluru North City Corporation limits. On April 20, Veena, an enumerator assigned to Ward No. 43, visited Peri Monarch Apartment near Sultanpalya Main Road, RT Nagar, where a resident refused to provide the details. On April 25, during verification, Rashmi R, supervisor (Circle-2), visited the location and sought the census information. The resident again obstructed the census work by refusing to cooperate and also verbally abused her. Based on the complaint by Dr Lokesh, the census charge officer, RT Nagar police have registered a case against the resident. **ENS**

BREACHING BYLAWS

HC: No lenience to flaws by professional builder

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE construction by professional builders stands on a different footing than that of a private individual constructing his own building. A professional builder is supposed to understand the law and all other regulations and deviations if any, keeping in mind the larger public interest in and around the apartment structures and neighbouring vicinity. Any shortfall is assumed to be deliberate and done with an intention to earn profit, deserves to be dealt with sternly to act as a deterrent in future, declared the High Court.

"The high-rise buildings with pocket apartments, regardless of the luxury they provide, cannot be permitted to stand at the risk of the general public, particularly the residents of the building and others in the vicinities. This is based on the principle that the private interest stands subordinate to the public interest and public good," it said.

A division bench of Justice DK Singh and Justice TM Nadaf made these observations while dismissing an appeal filed by M/s Vishnu Sri Builders and Developers recently against the order of single judge, who not only restrained the petitioner from putting up construction in the setback area of the block by the builder but also ordered to demolish the construction at the apartment at RR Nagar.

Stating that a perusal of report by the fire department along with the sketch of the building and the setback left clearly would show that vehicle movement with aerial ladder is not possible in the emergency rescue operations, the bench dismissed the appeal against the order passed on September 3, 2025, based on the petition filed by Rajasri Apartment Owners Association and two others, who challenged the revised no objection certificate given by the fire and emergency services to the builder.

The bench noted that the regulations and restrictions with respect to restrictions on height, number of stories and other structures, including percentage of flat that may be occupied, the size of open spaces and density of population, all matter to larger public safety and general welfare. In these circumstances, the proper setback provisions around the building, average alignments and structural alterations become indispensable, it said. Any deviation at the cost of the public safety at large cannot be condoned and brought in line, the bench added.

Residential schools record pass percentage of 99.4

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

STUDENTS of government residential schools under the Karnataka Residential Educational Institutions Society (KREIS) have recorded a pass percentage of 99.41 in the SSLC exams, said Social Welfare Minister HC Mahadevappa.

He told the media on Saturday, "A total of 35,014 students from 788 residential schools appeared for the examination, while 34,809 passed.

The pass percentage in these schools has increased by 8.37%. In all 89% or 30,971 students have passed with distinction and first-class."

He said, "The pass percentage at these schools is 5.31% more than figures from the entire state at 94.1. A total of 655 residential schools have scored pass percentage of 100. A total of 103 students have scored between 622 and 614 marks out of 625."

HIGHEST NUMBER OF STUDENTS HAVE SCORED CENTUM IN HINDI

HINDI	KANNADA	S.SCIENCE	ENGLISH	MATHS	SCIENCE
3,695	1,740	937	310	83	38

NO. OF STUDENTS IN THESE SCHOOLS: 2,17,970
TOTAL RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS/ COLLEGES: 8

539 SCHOOLS/COLLEGES FOR SCHEDULED CASTES
156 SCHOOLS FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES
179 SCHOOLS FOR BACKWARD CLASSES

Admissions for I PU begin

A total of 104 English medium residential colleges, including Morarji Desai, Kittur Rani Chennamma, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Dr BR Ambedkar and Indira Gandhi Residential Pre-University Colleges, operating under the Karnataka Residential Educational Institutions Society, have started admissions for PU 1 and 2. A total of 8,320 seats are available at 80 students per class. PCMB and PCMC combinations are available in science.

Applications should be submitted through www.kreis.karnataka.gov.in.

The last date for submitting applications is April 2. Talented students from Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Backward Classes and minority groups who have passed the SSLC examination this year can avail of this facility.

Water board offers scheme to install RWH system

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

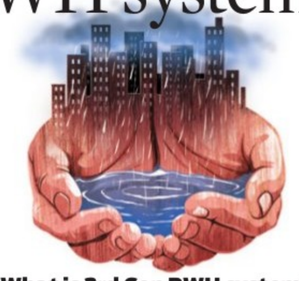
IN light of the meteorological department's forecast of a deficit in the upcoming monsoon, the Bengaluru Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) is taking steps to raise groundwater levels and reduce dependence on surface water.

"With a view to strengthen the rainwater harvesting (RWH) campaign in the city, the BWSSB has come forward to install RWH systems in the buildings of willing customers," said the civic body's chairman Ram Prasath Manohar.

For customers who hesitate to install RWH due to space constraints, a new 3rd Generation technology is being introduced. This will significantly reduce the reliance on Cauvery water and groundwater, Manohar said. The new system has already been implemented at 75 locations. Manohar personally inspected the new RWH system installed in a building in Bhuvaneshwari Nagar. Based on its success, the BWSSB is preparing to replicate this in buildings that have not yet installed RWH systems. "Implementation of this project will discussed in the upcoming BWSSB board meeting," he said.

Many customers are paying a penalty to BWSSB for not installing RWH systems. It collects a revenue of about Rs 3 crore every month in the form of these penalties, Manohar said.

It has been decided to recover the installation cost in phases, equivalent to the monthly penalty currently paid by the customers. Over time, this will not only save customers from paying penalties but also significantly reduce their water bills, said a senior BWSSB official.



What is 3rd Gen RWH system?

It is equipped with an SS316 mesh featuring an anti-choke weave

The streamlined design inside the filter maximises the velocity of the incoming water

Regulatory systems and automatic windows work in tandem to instantly expel waste of any size present in the water, providing pure water

BJP MLC Vishwanath AH said on Saturday that School Education Minister Madhu Bangarappa has compromised the quality of education, possibly rising dropouts at the PUC level. He alleged that full marks were awarded to most students in internal assessments, CCTV cameras switched off in a few centres to enable copying, and evaluators were instructed to be liberal in awarding marks

Elderly man kept under digi-arrest loses Rs 2 crore

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

Another person has fallen prey to digital arrest fraud. A 61-year-old man was duped of Rs 2.07 crore by fraudsters who kept him under digital arrest while impersonating officials from the National Investigation Agency (NIA) and Enforcement Directorate (ED).

Police said, the victim received a call in March from a person claiming to be an officer from the National Data Protection Centre. The caller alleged that the victim's identity documents were misused by a Mumbai-based person to obtain a SIM card, which was being used to send threat calls, obscene photos and videos, and was also linked to drug trafficking.

The fraudster further claimed that 30-50 FIRs were registered against the victim at the Colaba Police Station in Mumbai, and officials from NIA and ED would conduct an inquiry into the case. The victim later again received calls from individuals posing as NIA and ED officers. They collected his personal details and directed him to speak with a person who identified himself as ED officer Vilas Rao Patel.

The fraudsters allegedly intimidated the victim by branding him a criminal involved in terrorist activities and claimed that multiple cases were registered against him. The victim was instructed to transfer money for "verification and case clearance".

Between April 7 and April 18, the victim transferred Rs 2,07,04,600 via RTGS to multiple bank accounts provided by the fraudsters.

PEACE SEEKERS

Monks from Maha Bodhi Society marched spreading messages of peace on the occasion of Bodhi Saptaha in Bengaluru on Saturday | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

Onion vendor bashed to death while asleep

Harish Ramachandra

BENGALURU: A 45-year-old onion vendor was bludgeoned to death with a hollow brick while he was sleeping in front of Patalamma temple under Kadugodi police limits, at around 12.30am on Saturday. The deceased, Ramachandra Reddy, is suspected to be in a relationship with a woman in the vicinity. The accused, Harish (43), a resident of the same area, was close to the same woman. Frustrated about Reddy visiting the woman, Harish murdered him after he returned from the woman's house and slept in front of the temple. **ENS**

HC accepts Ranveer's apology in *Kantara* row

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

IN a relief to actor **Ranveer Singh**, the High Court of Karnataka on Saturday said that it would accept the actor's voluntary undertaking for offering prayers at the Chamundeshwari temple in Mysuru and a written apology for mocking sacred Daiva tradition picturised in Kannada film *Kantara Chapter-1* at a public event.

Justice M Nagaprasanna made these observations after taking note of Singh's revised affidavit in connection with his petition challenging an FIR registered against him for allegedly hurting public sentiments by mocking the sacred Daiva tradition.

Disposing Singh's plea questioning the legality of the FIR, Justice Nagaprasanna said an appropriate order would be passed. On November 28, 2025, during the closing ceremony of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) held in Goa, Singh allegedly mocked the sacred Daiva tradition on stage by imitating the divine expressions of Panjurli Daiva. The actor is also accused of verbally referring to Daiva as a "female ghost". The FIR was registered at the High Grounds police station on the same day, based on the direction of a magistrate on a private complaint filed by Bengaluru-based advocate Prashanth Methal.

Singh was booked under various provisions of the BNS for allegedly promoting enmity, hatred, or disharmony amid different groups based on religion, race, language or caste; deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion, beliefs and intentional wounding of religious feelings.

The complainant said Daiva is not a ghost but a powerful guardian spirit symbolising justice, protection and divine feminine energy and holds deep religious and cultural significance in coastal Karnataka.

EXPRESS READ

Solar CCTVs meant to track thieves stolen

BENGALURU: CCTVs and solar powered cameras installed to track coconut thieves were stolen by two miscreants in a farm house near the Three Ovals Karnataka State Cricket Association stadium in Alur, Dasanapura. 58-year-old school teacher, HP Mahadevaprasad, a resident of Huskur, had installed the electronic devices worth around Rs 40,000, and registered a case at Madanayakanahally police station after the incident on Thursday. The complainant had installed the security cameras for his three acre plot, and realised the theft while checking the live feed on his mobile phone. Of the five CCTVs and three solar powered cameras installed, the miscreants have stolen two CCTVs and two solar powered cameras. The police are on the lookout for the duo. **ENS**

3 killed in separate road accidents in city

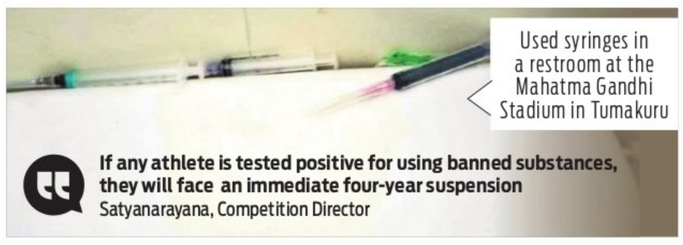
BENGALURU: A 21-year-old engineering student, Shirisha, died after she lost balance and fell from her two wheeler, came under the wheels of a bus, that killed her on the spot around 2.30 pm on Saturday on Uttarahalli Main Road. The second accident took place around 6.30 pm on Thursday on Kithanahalli-Hunnigere road near Dasanapura. A rashly driven vehicle crashed into NK Ravi (38), who was riding a two-wheeler, killing him on the the spot. A 73-year-old Abdul Rashid Khan, a resident of Sarjapur died in an accident that took place on the Sarjapur–Attibele road near Bidaraguppe village around 10.30am on Thursday. Khan was riding his scooter with his relative, and collided head on with another vehicle and died. **ENS**

Suspected doping casts shadow over national athletics meet in Tumakuru

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Tumakuru

FOUR to five used syringes and needles were found inside a restroom at the Mahatma Gandhi Stadium, raising suspicion of performance-enhancement drugs being used by athletes at the three-day 24th National Junior (U-20) Athletics Federation Competition 2026 that got off to a flying start in Tumakuru on Friday.

Over 1,000 track and field athletes, including male and female, from across the country are taking part in the event, which is a qualifier for the next month's Asian U20 Athletics Championship in Hong Kong and World Athletics U20 championships at Hayward Field in Eugene, Oregon, United States from August 5-9.



Used syringes in a restroom at the Mahatma Gandhi Stadium in Tumakuru

If any athlete is tested positive for using banned substances, they will face an immediate four-year suspension
Satyanarayana, Competition Director

Competition Director Satyanarayana, also a veteran athlete, confirmed that the discovery of syringes suggests that some athletes had used performance-enhancement drugs. But specific individuals have not been identified yet.

He said that a team of six officials from the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) is present at the event to conduct tests, particularly on those who win medals or reach the finals. "They have conducted doping tests and if any athlete is caught using banned substances, they will face an immediate four-year suspension from their sport. We don't interfere with NADA which is an independent agency." he said.

Those who qualify for the Asian and world championships will also be subjected to doping tests.

The competition has been hosted by the district administration in coordination with the Karnataka Athletic Association.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that **Mrs. G. Annapurna,** W/o Gurubasaiah aged about 54 years, is the owners of the immovable property mentioned in the schedule hereunder and they have lost the original Agreement for sale deed dated 25/05/2022 bearing Document No.00717/2022-23, Book-I, Stored in CD No.1068, executed by

1. M/S ETA Star Infopark through its duly constituted attorney Relationship Properties Private Limited authorized vide Power of Attorney Rep by its Authorized Signatory Mr.MOINULLA BAIG,
2. M/S ETA Karnataka Estates Limited through its duly constituted attorney Relationship Properties Private Limited authorized. vide Power of Attorney Rep by its Authorized Signatory Mr.MOINULLA BAIG,
3. M/S ETA Constructions (India) Limited through its duly constituted attorney Relationship Properties Private Limited authorized. vide Power of Attorney Rep by its Authorized Signatory Mr. MOINULLA BAIG.
4. M/S Relationship Properties Private Limited Rep by its Authorized Signatory Mr. MOINULLA BAIG (DEVELOPER / PROMOTER)

in favour of Mrs. G. Annapurna w/o Gurubasaiah registered in the office of sub registrar, Srirampura Bangalore. In case anybody having any claims or in possession of the said document, shall inform the under singed and handover the same **within SEVEN DAYS** from the date of publication of this notice.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the owner of the residential property bearing Tower No.9 (Parkwest), Pine - 1203, 12th Floor and Municipal **No.2652/5, Old Property No.5, formed in Assessment old No.67/9, New 1/1,(old No.1) Hosakere road, New Ward No.121(Old No.31), Binnypet Bengaluru-560023** & bounded on: **East by :** Hosakere road, **West by :** Goripalya Ranganth colony and new binny layout, **North By :** New binny layout road private property and portion of Municipal No.1/1 retained by ETA Karnataka Estates Pvt. Ltd, **South by :** Goripalya.

NIRANJAN. K. M., Advocate,
Law & Solutions, 1st floor,#14, 1st cross, Madhavanagar, Bangalore - 560001.
Mob:91-7899327224

WESTERN RAILWAY

MATERIAL MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
VARIOUS MATERIALS SUPPLY
E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE No. S/20/2026, Date 22.04.2026

S.N.	Tender No	SHORT DESCRIPTION OF ITEM	QUANTITY	T.O.D.
127	23263950	ELASTOMERIC PAD DESIGN-B	94532 Nos	25-May-26
128	22261222	OIL COOLING RADIATOR	20 Nos	21-May-26
129	22263281	Pinion shaft for WAP-7 loco 20 teeth	267 Nos	20-May-26
130	22263508	IOH KIT FOR COMPRESSOR TYPE RR20100 CGM, MAKE - M/S ELGI PART NO 072499779	93 Set	20-May-26
131	03253515	Brushes, Paints & Varnishes	9125 Nos	15-May-26

Regarding detailed notice EMD, Purchase restrictions and detailed tender conditions, please visit website **www.ireps.gov.in** and **wr.indianrailways.gov.in** 0026

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ಹಿಂದೂ ಧಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಧರ್ಮಾದಾಯ ದತ್ತಿಗಳ ಇಲಾಖೆ

ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ
ಶ್ರೀ ಪ್ರಸನ್ನ ವೀರಾಂಜನೇಯಸ್ವಾಮಿ ದೇವಸ್ಥಾನ
ಮಹಾಲಕ್ಷ್ಮೀಪುರಂ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು –560 086
Ph.No.: 080-23491727, **e-mail:** spvstemple1973@gmail.com

ಸಂ: ಶ್ರೀ.ಪ್ರ.ವೀ.ಸ್ವಾ.ದೇ./ಸಿ.ಆರ್.52–53/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 24.04.2026

ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ (E-Procurement) ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ, ಮಹಾಲಕ್ಷ್ಮೀಪುರ ಶ್ರೀ ಪ್ರಸನ್ನ ವೀರಾಂಜನೇಯಸ್ವಾಮಿ ದೇವಾಲಯಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತೆ ವಿವಿಧ ಸೇವೆಗಳನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯಲು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ (E-Procurement) ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳ ಅರ್ಹ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ/ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ದಾರರು ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ **https:/kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ನ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಸೂಕ್ತ ಷರತ್ತು ಮತ್ತು ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳನ್ವಯ ತಮ್ಮ ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ದೇವಾಲಯದ ಕಚೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ವಿವರ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ
1	2026–27ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷದ ಅವಧಿಗೆ ದಿನನಿತ್ಯ ಪ್ರಸಾದ ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಅಗತ್ಯವಿರುವ ದಿನಸಿ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸಾಮಗ್ರಿಗಳ ಸರಬರಾಜು.	25.04.2026 ರಿಂದ 11.05.2026ರ ಸಂಜೆ 5:00 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ	13.05.2026ರ ಸಂಜೆ 5:30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ
2	2026–27ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷದ ಅವಧಿಗೆ ಪ್ರತಿ ದಿನ ಶ್ರೀ ಸ್ವಾಮಿಯವರ ಅಲಂಕಾರಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಹಾಗೂ ವಿಶೇಷ ದಿನಗಳಂದು ವಿವಿಧ ಬಗೆಯ ಹೂವಿನ ಹಾರಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರೆ ಬಿಡಿ ಹೂಗಳ ಸರಬರಾಜು.		

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ
ಶ್ರೀ ಪ್ರಸನ್ನ ವೀರಾಂಜನೇಯ ಸ್ವಾಮಿ ದೇವಸ್ಥಾನ
ಮಹಾಲಕ್ಷ್ಮೀಪುರಂ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

DIPR/CP/343/SA/2025-26

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that, my clients have agreed to purchase the Schedule Property from its Owners: **(1)Smt.Prameela Shivakumar** W/o late G.Shivakumar, **(2)Sri.Aakash** A.Chajjed S/o late Ashok Kumar.T.S, **(3)Smt.Anju K. Chowdhary** W/o late Kamalesh.G Chowdhary and her children Smt.Saijal Jain and Sri.Jigar Chowdhary, **(4)Smt.A.R.Jayashree** W/o late S.R. Amarnath, **(5)Smt.A.Pallavi Adarsh** W/o Sri.Adarsh K. Murthy and **(6)Sri.G.S.Yoganarasimha** S/o late G.S.Shankaraiah.

Apart from the said owners, if any other person/s have any manner of claim or interest or demand over the Schedule property or any part thereof by way of sale, lease, mortgage, gift, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, pre-emption or otherwise howsoever, they are hereby requested to file their objection/s (along with the photocopies of the documents on which they are relying), with the undersigned within **14 days** from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the entire residential apartment building known as "ADARSH GARADI RESIDENCY" comprised of six apartments, bearing Municipal Nos.20 (E.PID No.6098536117), 20/3 (E.PID No.5378610822), 20/4 (E.PID No.9538011053), 20/5 (E.PID No.2097074006), 20/6 (E.PID No.5604408431) and 20/7 (E.PID No.8916456239), built on the land/property bearing Municipal No.20, measuring East to West 120ft and North to South 50ft, in all measuring 6000 Sq.ft., situated at New High School Road, V.V.Puram, Bangalore and bounded on:

East by : Jain Temple Street
West by : New High School Road
North by : Property of Sri.G.Basavaraj
South by: Property of Sri.D.M.NagarajRao and others.

Sd/- S.F. Goutam Chand, Advocate
Goutam Associates
No.60, 2nd Floor, Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560004

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client **Mr. S. SHASHANK**, S/o Sri. N. Subbu, is intended to purchase the below said schedule property from Smt. BHAGYALAKSHMI. T.N, **2). Smt. YASHODA & 3). Smt.ROOPA BANUPRAKASH @ B.M.ROOPA**, if anybody having any valid claim, demand or interest over the said property or any objections to the said transaction by my client may file his/her/their objections in writing along with copies of the supporting documents duly attested with the undersigned within **15 days** from this day, failing which it will be deemed that no other person/s has any claim or agreement to sell or DTD or charge lien, otherwise or objections to the said transaction of the schedule property by my clients and my clients will complete the registration of the sale deed as if there is no such claim.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Municipal Corporation No:7, Old PID No:33-38-7, New PID No:124-W0156-8, Present E-katha No:4338809798, Ward No:124, situated at 14th Cross Road, Cholurpalya, Bengaluru560040, same is measuring East to West 60 feet and North to South 45 feet totally measuring 2700 square feet, and consisting Groud Floor 1500 sq.feet., First Floor to Third Floor 6,600 square feet building there on Rcc roofing Mosaic flooring, jungle wood doors and windows and bounded as follows: On the **East by:** Road, **West by:** Road, **North by:** Road, **South by:** Property No.10.

Sd/- T.N. RAJASHEKAR, Advocate
No.32, Sunkalpet Main Road,
Cubbonpet, Bangalore-560 002.

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government of India Undertaking)

Viveknagar Branch (DP:0790)
#1, 1st Main Road, Viveknagar S.O.
Bengaluru-560047. Ph: 9483520790
E-mail: cb0790@canarabank.com

(Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Property)

SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable / movable Property under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable / movable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/physical (Strike whichever is not applicable) **possession** of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of **Viveknagar Branch (0790)** of the **Canara Bank,** will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" on 11.05.2026** for recovery of **Rs.4,30,913.44 (Rupees Four Lakh Thirty Thousand and Nine Hundred and Thirteen and Paisa Forty Four Only) as on 22-04-2026** with further and charges thereon due to the **Viveknagar Branch (0790) of Canara Bank,** from **Borrower(s):**
(1) Bhagyamma (Borrower) W/o Ravi, No 64, 1st Cross, Anjaneya Road, Sonnenahalli, Viveknagar, Bengaluru-560047.
(2) Adinarayana Koru (Co-Borrower) No 64, IInd Main Road, 1st Cross, Sonnenahalli, Viveknagar, Bengaluru - 560047.
The Reserve Price and Earnest Money Deposits details are as under: The Earnest Money shall be deposited in **E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT **on or before 10.05.2026 - 4.00 PM.**

(Rs. in lakhs)

Description of Immovable Property	Reserve Price	EMD Amount	Incremental value at Bid
SCHEDULE A : Alur residential Block - B12/303 : All that piece and Parcel of the property bearing No.128, in block Nos. 9, 10, 11 and 12 formed out of Survey No. 113, formed by Bengaluru Development Authority, Situated at Alur Village, along with the building standing there on, measuring North to South 60.00 meters, and East to West 44.00 Meters, thus in all measuring 2640.00 Square Meters and bounded on the: East by: Road, West by: Road, North by: Road, South by: Vecant land belonging to BDA. **SCHEDULE B:** 33.526 Square Meters of undivided share, right title and interst and ownership in the schedule 'A' Property. **SCHEDULE C:** Residential Flat No. B12/303 on the Third floor in block No.12, of Alur Layout, measuring 33.526 square meters of Built up area comprising of 1BHK constructed on the schedule 'A' property and proportionate common areas, such as Passage, Staircase, Lift Etc., and have the exclusive right to use and enjoy the same without any interruption from other co-owners of the Building and bounded on the. East by : House No.B12/302, West by : Open Space, North by : B12/304, South by : Open Space. **CERSAI Security ID : 400013619105** **Name of Title Holder : Bhagyamma W/o Ravi**	Rs. 13,35,000/-	Rs. 1,33,500/-	Rs. 10,000/-

Date & Time of Auction : 11.05.2026 10.30 AM to 11:30 PM, Date of Sale Notice : 22.04.2026
Property Inspection Date: with prior appointment with Authorised Officer, from 23.04.2026 to 10.05.2026 between 11 A.M to 4.00 P.M
Place of Auction : Online, https://baanknet.com
Details of Auction service provider: M/s.PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd.,
For further details contact Authorised Officer RO East / Canara Bank, Viveknagar Branch, No.1, 1st Main Road, Viveknagar S. O, Viveknagar, Bangalore-560047. Ph: 9483520790, E-mail: cb0790@canarabank.com during office hours on any working day or the service provider E-bkary (M/s PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd), (Contact No.8291220220, Email:support.baanknet@psballiance.com)
Note: All charges including property tax, Electricity charges, Water Bills and Maintenance charges etc if any other charges shall be borne by the successful bidder only.

Date : 24.04.2026
Place: Bengaluru

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

Government of Karnataka
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD DIVISION KALABURAGI

No: EE/PWD/KD/TS-2,3,4,5/Tender Notification/2026-27/268 Date: 22.04.2026

:: SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION ::

1) Name of Work : Executive Engineer PWD Division Invites tender for the Works Under CMIDP 20 works, KKRDB 11 works, S.F.C 05 Works, 5054 Appendix-e 03 Works, 5054 KRDCL Bridge 05 Works, 2059 Maintainance 01 Works and MLC LAD 01 Works Total 48 works for the year 2025-26 Works for indent No: 35777 (work Reserved for ST Category), 33928, 33929 (work Reserved for SC Category), 35541, 35827 (work Reserved for 2A Category), 35004, 35005, 35006, 35544, 35816, 35693, 35817, 35797, 35770, 35815, 35692, 35691, 35808, 35807, 35628, 35629, 35733, 35740, 35763, 35845, 35831, 35833, 35796, 33840, 33841, 34035, 34379, 33942, 35762, 35630, 35087, 34451, 35759, 35764, 34446, 35467,35529,34406,35765,35678, 33484, 34954, SE0622. 2) Estimate cost : **Min Rs. 10.00 Lakhs Max Rs.800.00 Lakhs,** 3) Eligibility of Contractor : Class IV and above PWD Registered contractor, 4) EMD Amount : Min Rs 21,500.00 and Max. Rs 10,17,000.00, 5) Pre-Bid Meeting : **04.05.2026 (11.00 Hrs),** 6) Last date for quries : **05.05.2026 (17.30 Hrs),** 7) Last date for Submission of bid : **06.05.2026 (16.00 Hrs),** 8) Date of opening of Technical Bid : **07.05.2026 (16.30 Hrs),** 9) Date of opening of Financial Bid : **08.05.2026 (16.30 Hrs),** 10) Enquriries : Office of the Executive Engineer PWD Division Kalaburagi, 11) Note : GST Will be Paid Separately, 12) Website : **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in,** 13) Bidders Should Note That : Note: 1)Undersigned reserved the right to Cancel / Postpone/ Reject any or all the tenders at any point of time during tender process without assigning any reason. 2) Changes in the tender process will not be Published in the News Papers Bidders may get Details of Changes In KPPP Portal Only.

DIPR/Kalaburagi/73/KSMC&A/2026-27

Sd/- Executive Engineer
PWD Division Kalaburagi

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THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

Downplaying Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar's frequent visits to New Delhi, PWD Minister Satish Jarkiholi said, "There is nothing unusual about it. He holds key portfolios and is also the KPCC president. Visiting Delhi for development works and meeting Union ministers is part of his responsibilities. It should not be misconstrued as an indication of leadership change."

Union Minister of State Shobha Karnadlaje and Nari Shakti Forum members protest against the Congress in Bengaluru on Saturday | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

Cong-led alliance creating North-South divide: Karandlaje

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

UNION Minister of State for MSME Shoba Karandlaje on Saturday held opposition parties in the Lok Sabha responsible for the defeat of the women's reservation bill.

Addressing BJP women members at Freedom Park here, she said the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) led by the Congress systematically conspired to mislead the people stating that injustice will be done to South India in the proposed delimitation of constituencies and used this as a tool to defeat the women's reservation bill. The move of the alliance is to create a north-south division, she alleged.

"Karnataka, which has 28 Lok Sabha constituencies, will get 14 more, taking the total number of LS seats to 42. Kerala, which has 20 seats, and will get 10 more. Similarly, Tamil Nadu, which has 39 seats, will get 39 more. This (delimitation) exercise will benefit South India. But the Congress-led alliance defeated the women's reservation bill using the delimitation exercise as an excuse," Karandlaje said.

Stating that the women's reservation bill was passed in the Lok Sabha in 2023, she said the LS has only 543 seats. The proposal is to increase this number to 850 for fair distribution of reservation. "I am confident that this bill will be passed in the coming days," she added.

Sushaleemma, Padmashree awardee from Sumangali Sevaashrama, appealed to women in the state to launch a struggle for 33% reservation.

DKS IN DELHI TO CLEAR HURDLES FOR CM ASPIRATIONS

In talks with AICC president, Shivakumar insists that the issue of change in CM's post should be settled

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @Bengaluru

DEPUTY Chief Minister DK Shivakumar has camped in Delhi amid speculation that either there could be a change in leadership or Chief Minister Siddaramaiah would be allowed to reshuffle his cabinet once the results of polls to the five state assemblies and bypolls to Davanagere South and Bagalkot assembly constituencies are out on May 4.

Also, the Siddaramaiah camp holding a "secret" dinner meeting on Thursday evening at his close confidant and Urban Development Minister Byrathi Suresh's apartment on Cunningham road in Bengaluru, and Shivakumar's visit to New Delhi on the same day, and his continuing stay there has given rise to many speculation.

On Friday evening, Shivakumar and his younger brother DK Suresh met AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge for over two-and-a-half hours. Shivakumar is said to have insisted with Kharge that the issue of change in CM should be settled. He tried to reach out to LoP in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi and Wayanad MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra to remind them of the power-sharing agreement reportedly struck between him and Siddaramaiah when the party came to power in 2023.

It is said that as per the agreement, Siddaramaiah should have handed over power to Shivakumar after completing the half-way mark of two-and-a-half years of Congress' rule. But it has not happened and the government is completing three years in office on May 21.

Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar and Union Minister Manohar Lal Khattar (right) release a report 'Moving Towards Efficient City Government: A Framework for Million Plus Cities' during the 56th Foundation Day and Symposium organised by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs in New Delhi on Saturday | EXPRESS

Sources said Shivakumar also spoke to AICC General Secretary (organisation) KC Venugopal over phone on the same issue.

His brother-in-law and Kunigal MLA Dr HD Ranganath on Saturday said in Tumakuru that the agreement between Shivakumar and Siddaramaiah exists. "We are looking at Delhi for the message from the high command," he said. His another sympathiser and Magadi MLA HC Balakrishna insisted that the high command should clear the confusion over leadership change.

But the Siddaramaiah camp strongly believes that the high command will give its nod for the cabinet reshuffle, and he will step down only if Rahul asks him to, which is not likely to happen anytime soon. He will only lobby hard to get the KPCC president's post, held by Shivakumar now, to his Man Friday PWD Minister Satish Jarkiholi, a source said. But Dalit ministers, especially Dr G Parameshwara, believe that Siddaramaiah would propose his name if it is inevitable for him to step down as CM, sources said.

Recently, Kharge, Priyanka, senior leaders and Supreme Court lawyers Kapil Sibal and Abhishek Manu Singhvi held talks about legal hurdles for Shivakumar to become chief minister as he faces several court cases.

Recent ED raids on Shivakumar's sympathiser and Youth Congress leader Mohammed Haris Nalpad, son of Shantinagar MLA NA Haris, was also discussed, sources said.

Besides chasing their political ambitions, the DK brothers also focussed on getting their issues resolved as they met legal experts and chartered accountants, the sources added.

Min: DKS can aspire to be CM but post not vacant

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Belagavi

TAKING a dig at the Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar camp, Animal Husbandry Minister **K Venkatesh**, a close aide of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, said the CM's post is "not vacant".

At a press conference here on Saturday, Venkatesh said there is nothing wrong in Shivakumar aspiring to become chief minister, but the post is currently occupied.

His remarks come at a time when discussions around a possible leadership change and cabinet reshuffle have triggered debates within the ruling Congress.

Responding to questions on the issue, the minister maintained that any decision regarding a cabinet reshuffle would rest solely with the party high command. He dismissed recent remarks by Congress leader Saleem Ahmed suggesting that 50 per cent of ministers should be dropped from the cabinet, terming it a "personal opinion" with no official bearing.

"There is no confusion as such. The high command will take an appropriate decision at the right time. As of now, that time has not come," Venkatesh said, seeking to downplay internal speculation.

On reports of an alleged power-sharing agreement between the CM and DCM, the minister said he has no information about any such arrangement. He added that decisions on retaining or dropping ministers would be taken by the party leadership, and that he was prepared for any outcome.

Rejecting allegations that minorities were being sidelined within the party, Venkatesh said disciplinary action has already been taken against those who violated party norms.

Shifting focus to governance, the minister highlighted key initiatives of the Animal Husbandry Department. He said the state government is conducting biannual vaccination drives against foot-and-mouth disease among livestock, adding that the campaign, which was successfully completed in Mysuru region, was launched in Belagavi on Saturday.

He noted that compensation is being provided to livestock owners, with Rs 15,000 granted in case of cattle deaths and Rs 5,000 for the death of lambs. The government has also established 30 goshalas across the state and is extending necessary support to privately-run shelters, he added.

TD Raje Gowda DN Jeevaraj

Recounting for Sringeri Assembly polls on May 2

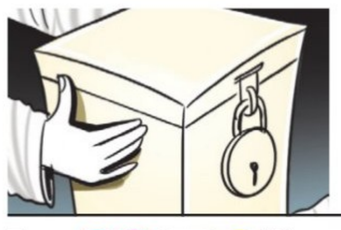
EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Chikkamagluru

FOLLOWING directions of the Karnataka High Court, the recounting of postal ballots for the Sringeri Assembly election will be held at the IDSG First Grade College on May 2.

The district administration has made comprehensive arrangements for the recounting process at the college premises. ADC Gourav Shetty has been appointed election officer, with four others designated as assistant election officers. A dedicated counting table will be set up, and CCTV cameras will be installed in the counting room. The recounting is scheduled to commence at 8 am.

Polling agents and Congress MLA TD Raje Gowda, along with the defeated BJP candidate DN Jeevaraj, are expected to be present during the process. As the deadline for seeking a stay on the recounting had already lapsed on April 20, the High Court ordered the recounting to take place on May 2.

In the 2023 Assembly polls, the BJP candidate was defeated by a margin of 201 votes. Out of 2,811 postal ballot votes, 279 were rejected. Objecting to the results, DN Jeevaraj had sought recounting, but the district election officer did not consider his request and declared TD Raje Gowda as elected. Aggrieved by the decision, BJP candidate DN Jeevaraj approached the High Court, which has now directed that the postal ballot votes be recounted on May 2.



If so many MPs pressing for CEC's scalp, there must be something: Omar

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

JAMMU and Kashmir Chief Minister (CM) Omar Abdullah echoed the opposition's voice of impeachment of the Chief Election Commissioner.

Addressing the media in Bengaluru, the CM said, "If so many MPs are pressing for impeachment there must be something. I remember from TN Seshan to till recently, no one had any objection. I don't remember any CEC facing such questions. It appears there is a shortcoming that needs to be addressed."

Abdullah, who had come to the city to greet a family friend over their son's wedding and participation in the Bengaluru Marathon, also spoke on the West Bengal elections and said, Mamata Banerjee's home segment witnessed a 25% reduction in voters. There are 70 seats in which more voters' names have been removed compared to the loss margin of the BJP in the previous election. Is this not an (SIR) weapon against the BJP's opposition, he questioned.

The CM also stated that West Bengal's voter population has reduced. Voting percentage increased due to the reduction in SIR. Many voters were removed. The BJP is only telling about the overall voting percentage but not disclosing how many people have been prevented from voting.

"It is not the fear of EVMs; they do more (fraud) in pre-election management. We expected the court would take up the matter, but it is unfortunate that the matter will be heard only after the elections are concluded," he said and added, "There are so many people who fought in the borders for the country in uniform. When it is a matter of casting a vote during the Bengal election, we are saying those people are not Indians. Is this not an injustice?"

J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah greets Aga Sultan, chairman of the Central Relief Committe, during a visit to the latter's house in Bengaluru on Saturday | EXPRESS

Abdullah also spoke on Aam Aadmi Party leaders like Raghav Chadda and 6 others switching to BJP and said these' Ayaram Gayaram' (defections) incidents have been happening for so many years. "In 1984, my father's government was pulled down due to defection. This is not the first time. It is unfortunate," he said.

He said that AAP may hardly be impacted as all those who switched sides cannot win elections on thier own. "They are the Rajya Sabha members and have been para-dropped. Today, they are in the news. I don't think the BJP will benefit from these hoppers. If these people are so powerful, they would have been Lok Sabha members," he said.

Iran-US-Israel war

Abdullah said that he has not been able to understand why these forces are at war with Iran. "Why was the supreme leader assassinated? Trump was telling we would change the regime, which did not happen. The war should be ended and Iran should be compensated, as it did not start any war. We can only pray for the end of the war," he said.

JANIVARA ROW

Brahmana Mahasabha writes to CM, seeks revoking of college affiliation

EXPRESS NEW SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE Akhila Karnataka Brahmana Mahasabha has written to the Chief Minister Siddaramaiah seeking cancellation of the affiliation and accreditation of a private PU college in Bengaluru for allegedly forcing students to remove the janivara during the Common Entrance Test held on April 23. They have also demanded that a penalty of Rs 25 lakh be imposed on the college.

Mahasabha president S Raghunath said, "Removing or cutting janivara of students during exams is a clear indication that some schools and colleges are harboring hatred against Brahmins. During the CET examination, a case of Janivara being removed or being cut has come to our attention. It is said that this incident took place at a private college near Koramangala in Bengaluru. This is very unfortunate and condemnable. Initially, when the students and their parents tried to file a complaint at the Madiwala police station, the officials also hesitated to file it."

He added, "Last year, similar incidents were reported in the state and we had filed a Public Interest Litigation in the High Court against it. In that case, the state government had given an undertaking to the High Court that it would take appropriate action to prevent such cases from recurring. However, with this incident repeating again, indicates that the government's undertaking has not been respected. Therefore, we are requesting the government to cancel the affiliation of this college and other colleges when such incidents take place."

The Congress government is responsible for such humiliation. Last year, students following their religious faith were asked to remove sacred thread from wrist, remove tilak. The government has restored to appeasement politics and is a anti-Hindu administration

-- Union Minister of State for MSME Shoba Karandlaje

Despite training and warning college authorities frequently about dos and don'ts and issuing guidelines about frisking students during the Common Entrance Test (CET) 2026, three students were forced to remove janivara (sacred thread) by authorities at a private institute in Bengaluru. The college has suspended the three staffers.

A complaint was registered by parents of these three students at Madiwala police station on April 24 morning. Anand S Theertha, Nakul H, and Anirudh R Rao are the three students who were forced to remove 'janivara', despite refusing and arguing with the college authorities. Later the police arrested three staff members including Sudhakar D, Saritha R and Girijamma.

An inquiry committee has been formed.

Janivara thrown into dustbin

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Sources said Suprith's CET centre was Nagarjuna College and officials at the entrance noticed the janivara and asked Suprith to remove it. First, Suprith did not want to take it off, but as he was desperate to write the test, he agreed to do it. But when he told officials that he will keep the janivara with him, but won't wear it, they did not agree. In the meantime, a woman official arrived at the scene with a pair of scissors, cut his janivara and threw it in a dustbin. A visibly upset Suprith wrote the test. When he informed his parents later, they told him that he should have skipped the test.

After the test, Suprith retrieved the severed janivara from the dustbin and took it home. Suprith has decided to file a complaint.

BJP SLAMS GOVT OVER INTERNAL QUOTA IMPLEMENTATION

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

FORMER Deputy Chief Minister and Chitradurga MP Govinda Karajol here on Saturday has questioned Chief Minister Siddaramaiah whether he rejected the report of Justice HN Nagamohan Das Commission, appointed by the government to study and recommend internal quota for Scheduled Castes, because it was unscientific.

Addressing a press conference at the BJP state office he demanded clarification on whether the CM accepted the report of Chief Secretary Shalini Rajneesh that you prepared as scientific to redraw the quota of 5.25 each to SC left and SC right and 4.5 to others within the SC category.

"Even though the Das report recommended 17 percent, the quota was downsized to 15 percent. Why was it not given," he questioned.

He pointed out that the previous BJP goverment had increased the SC quota to 17 percent and given reservation following the recommendations of the cabinet sub committee. The quota was distributed with 6 percent to SC left, 5.5 percent to SC right, 4.5 percent to Bhovi and Lambanis and 1 percent to nomads, he said.

When the Congress lost the assembly polls in 2018 Siddaramaiah had reported to Sonia Gandhi that he lost because the SC left caste did not vote for the party because internal reservation was not given. He then promised internal quota in 2023 in the first session of the assembly itself but took three years.

"In the previous session, three categories were given the quota in the ratio of 6:6:5. You approved the bill and got the governor's approval for 17 per cent but did not implement the same. Your intention is that SC sub-castes fight among themselves and get defeated in court," he alleged.

State govt's decision on quota has full public support, says Jarkiholi

Former minister H Anjaneya congratulates CM Siddaramaiah for implementing internal reservation

Belagavi: Terming the Siddaramaiah government's announcement of internal reservation, a long-pending demand of several communities, as "historic", PWD Minister Satish Jarkiholi said the measure was cleared at a special Cabinet meeting with unanimous consent. "All ministers, including those representing various communities, were present. The decision was taken without any differences, and there is a sense of satisfaction among all sections," he told reporters in Belagavi. The announcement is being seen as a politically significant step by the Congress government, aimed at addressing long-standing demands for equitable distribution of reservation benefits within communities. Hitting back at the BJP for opposing the move, Jarkiholi dismissed the criticism as routine politics. "Opposition parties tend to find fault with every decision of the government. But this is a pro-people, historic step that has widespread public support. Such statements are being made merely to stay politically relevant," he said. With the internal reservation announcement expected to reshape social and political equations in Karnataka, all eyes are now on how the opposition responds. ENS

Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation will operate additional bus services on Sunday in view of the TCS World 10K Bengaluru. Additional buses will be deployed based on passenger demand and crowd density attending the event

KAVITHA FLOATS NEW PARTY, TARGETS KCR, BRS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Hyderabad

FORMER MLC K Kalvakuntla Kavitha on Saturday launched a new political party, Telangana Rashtra Sena (TRS), at a public meeting in Muneerabad of Malkajgiri-Medchal district. The party flag carries yellow, blue and red colours.

Sources said Kavitha had initially considered naming the party Telangana Praja Jagruthi, in line with her Telangana Jagruthi organisation. However, she later chose Telangana Rashtra Sena after the Election Commission reportedly declined the earlier name as it resembled that of another registered party.

The move is politically notable as the original Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) was founded in 2001 by her father, former chief minister K Chandrasekhar Rao. In 2022, it was renamed Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) as part of a national expansion plan.

Though Kavitha unveiled a party using the initials TRS, there was radio silence from the BRS leaders, except for a single post on X referring to originals and duplicates. Launching the party, Kavitha mounted a sharp attack on KCR, stating that he now is a shell of his former self, a robot. She said, "KCR is not the same anymore. The KCR of the past cared for people, fought for them and solved their problems."

Former MLC Kalvakuntla Kavitha launches a new political party – Telangana Rashtra Sena – in Hyderabad on Saturday | EXPRESS

She added, "Power corrupted him. I am not saying this out of pain." Recalling the Telangana agitation years, she said, "The KCR we knew protested when artisans died and took up every issue. Today's KCR is nowhere to be seen when poor people's houses are demolished in Velugumatla. When farmers faced losses and HYDRAA unleashed brutality on the poor, KCR was invisible." Referring to irrigation projects, Kavitha said, "If it were the earlier KCR, he would have secured the Palamuru-RR project, which has been stalled for 10 years."

She alleged that instead of focusing on Telangana, the BRS supremo travelled to Bihar, Bengal and other states to build a national party. In one of her strongest remarks, she said, "He once said even if his own children were corrupt, he would disown them. Now he has removed me for raising corruption in the Kaleshwaram project. I will fight him. I will wage war for the people of Telangana. That is non-negotiable."

Reacting to BRS working president KT Rama Rao's earlier comments on her decision to float a party, she said, "If KTR speaks that way, it is understandable, as he is naive."

Phones on aeroplane mode for safari-goers

BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

THE State Forest Department has directed all safari visitors to keep their mobile phones on aeroplane mode and prohibited selfies during safaris.

The order follows a recent Supreme Court directive banning the use of mobile phones inside safari areas. The move is aimed at ensuring the safety of both wild animals and tourists. While the rule has already been fully implemented in safari zones of Ranthambore, Sariska and other tiger reserves, Karnataka is yet to fully follow suit.

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Karnataka, Kumar Pushkar, said, "Anything that causes disturbance during safaris should not be used. Orders have been issued directing all those going on safari, including guests and staff, to keep their mobile phones on aeroplane mode." Another senior Forest Department official, who did not wish to be identified, said, "We face fewer issues compared to other states as safaris here are more regulated. There is no need to ask guests to deposit their phones or switch off their devices. Smartphones are used to take photographs. However, sharing locations of animal sightings and communicating with others while on safari is banned."

Experts, however, said there should be no dilution in implementing the court's directions. Retired PCCF BK Singh said the orders were issued to prevent the disclosure of animal locations and avoid crowding of vehicles at a single safari

spot. Praveen Bhargav, Trustee, Wildlife First, said the Supreme Court's directions to stop the use of mobile phones inside tiger reserves must be enforced before May 17, 2026. The ban applies to safari vehicle drivers and naturalists. "It should also extend to the use of wireless radios. These measures will ensure safari vehicles do not congregate at locations where a tiger has been sighted, which is a major cause of disturbance," he said, adding that the construction of 4G towers deep within protected areas and tiger reserves poses a growing threat and is incompatible with wildlife conservation goals. Such proposals must be rejected, he said.

Bhargav added the Supreme Court has directed that the entire area of tiger reserves, including eco-sensitive zones, be notified as "Silence Zones" under the Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000, by February 17, 2026. The court has also asked the government to consider notifying all forests as Silence Zones. Therefore, Karnataka has no option but to enforce the directions contained in the Corbett judgment of November 2025, which applies across the country.

H5N1 outbreak: No human cases detected

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE Karnataka Department of Health and Family Welfare has completed a 10-day intensive surveillance and containment operation following the outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza (H5N1) at the State Poultry Rearing Training Centre in Mathkuru village, Hesaraghatta. The outbreak was confirmed on April 14 after laboratory tests conducted by the National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases, Bhopal. Following the confirmation, State and District Rapid Response Teams, along with local health officials, launched immediate containment measures. Authorities confirmed that no human infection has been detected so far.

An infected zone of 0–3 km and a surveillance zone of 3–10 km were declared around the affected farm.

The Animal Husbandry Department culled all birds and disposed of eggs and contaminated feed in accordance with biosecurity protocols. As part of surveillance, 28,172 people across 22 villages within a 10-km radius were monitored over ten days. Officials have urged the public not to consume meat or eggs from sick birds and to report unusual bird deaths immediately.

EXPRESS READ

Chennai–B'luru travel time may drop to 73 min

BENGALURU: Travel time between Chennai and Bengaluru is expected to come down to just 73 minutes with the introduction of high-speed rail, Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said while inaugurating Aditya, a specialised high-speed rail manufacturing complex at BEML Limited's Tippasandra campus. He said cities in South would function as extensions of one another once the network becomes operational.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, the undersigned advocate on behalf of my client **Sri. Mariyappa** have filed the above petition for the death certificate of one **Late. Mariyamma W/o late. Venkataramanappa @ Muniyappa was died on 19-03-2010** at Kempathimmanahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore if any parties who have objections may dispute regarding the same can appear before the Hon'ble Principal Civil Judge and J.M.F.C at Devanahalli and the date hearing **on 23.06.2026 at 11.00 A.M in Crl Mis.No. 283/2026.**

By Order of the Court, Sd/- Chief Ministerial Officer
Addl. Civil Judge & JMFC Court, Devanahalli
Sri Madhu, Advocate

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, the undersigned advocate on behalf of my client **Sri. Mariyappa** have filed the above petition for the death certificate of one **late. Venkataramanappa @ Muniyappa S/o late. Changappa was died on 04-05-2019** at Kempathimmanahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore if any parties who have objections may dispute regarding the same can appear before the Hon'ble Principal Civil Judge and J.M.F.C at Devanahalli and the date hearing **on 23.06.2026 at 11.00 A.M in Crl. Mis.No. 282/2026.**

By Order of the Court, Sd/- Chief Ministerial Officer
Addl. Civil Judge & JMFC Court, Devanahalli
Sri Madhu, Advocate

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client intends to purchase the Schedule Property from **Smt. Shevanthi Karumbia** W/o. **Sri. Karumnia, Smt. Anita Gautam** W/o. Late. **Gautam, Sri. Bharath Gautam** and **Sri. Karan Gautam,** both are sons of Late. Gautam. S and Schedule Property was purchased by **Smt. Shevanthi Karumbia** and **Sri. Gautam. S** via Sale Deed dated 05.05.2006, Red. as Document No. BSG-1-00560/2006-07, Book-1, CD No. BSGD74, Sub-Registrar, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru. If any person, bank, or authority has objections to the proposed sale or claims on the property, please lodge them with documentary proof **within 7 days** from the publication date of this notice. If no objections are received, it will be presumed the property is free from encumbrances, and my client will proceed with the purchase. Claims received after this period may not be entertained.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Immovable Property bearing Corporation No. 29 (Twenty Nine, Old No. 596, Old Khatha No. 29, E-PID No.1723966932, situated at Sri Subramanya Swamy Temple Street, Visveswarapuram, Bengaluru – 560 004, within the limits of Bengaluru Central City Corporation, Ward No. 143-Visveswarapuram, measuring East to West 12 and North to South 65 feet, in all 780 Square feet along with building and bounded on the:

East by : Property belongs to Subramanyam Temple Trust
West by : Property of Common Passage
North by : Property belongs to Sri. Tara Bai
South by : Road

A.P. LAW ASSOCIATES
No.1642/28, 3rd Main, 1st Cross Ramamohanpuram Near Srirampura Metro Station, (Behind Devaiah Park), Bengaluru-560021
Mob: 9844378777/6263583397
Date: 25.04.2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to public that my client **Smt. Pul Bathi Devi** W/o Sri. Sarvan Kumar states that original Sale deed dated 23-06-2014 executed by Smt. K S Lalitha Devi in favour of Sri. Sarvan Kumar vide document No. BGR-1-01655/2014-15 stored in CD No. BGRD246 in the office of the sub-Registrar Begur, Bengaluru is lost during transit.

If any body get any information about the said document/in the possession of the same/having any claim/interest in the schedule property may write/contact to the undersigned within 15 days with documentary proof failing which my clients will treat the certified copy of the said document as original and objections received thereafter is not binding upon my client.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of residential Site No. 17, Old Khatha No. 22/1, Khatha No. 37/2, situated at "Krishna Layout" Hulimavu Village, Begur Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk. Measuring :
East to West : 38 ft
North to South : 40 ft
Totally measuring : 1520 sqft Bounded on :
East by : Sy. No. 37/3
West by : Site No. 18
North by : Road
South by : Site No. 30P

POORNIMA. K.S. Advocate.
2710, 6th Main, 2nd Stage, K.S. Layout, Bangalore-560 078. Mb : 9886244736.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to public that my client **Smt. Sathya Bhama V** states that original Sale deed dated 07-06-1973 executed by Mr. P C Ganapathy Hon, Secretary, ITI Employees House building Co-operative Society in favour of Smt. Asothammal vide document No. 1533/1973-74 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Bengaluru is lost during transit.

If anybody get any information about the said document/in the possession of the same/having any claim/interest in the schedule property may write/contact to the undersigned within 15 days with documentary proof failing which my clients will treat the certified copy of the said document as original and objections received thereafter is not binding upon my client.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of property bearing Site No. 5, formed by ITI Employees Housing Co-operative Society, Khatha No.5, situated at Dooravaninagar, Vijanapura Village, Bengaluru. Measuring:
East to West : 40 ft
North to South : 58.6 ft
Admeasuring : 2344 sq ft Bounded on :
East by : Site No. 6.
West by : Site No. 4.
North by : Road.
South by : Central food Godown.

POORNIMA. K.S. Advocate.
2710, 6th Main, 2nd Stage, K.S. Layout, Bangalore-560 078. Mb : 9886244736.

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE

For and on behalf of the President of India, Chief Administrative Officer (Construction), North Western Railway, Head Quarter building, Jawahar Circle, Jaipur invites online open E-Tendering System (Two Packet) for the following work on prescribed electronic forms:- **Tender No.:** NWR-SC-TRAH-ABR-NL-T-23R, **Name of the Work:** Construction of Broad Gauge Ballastless Track (BLT) system with transition from Ballastless to Ballasted track in Tunnels/ Bridges/Formation/Cutting with contractors own Proven Ballastless Track along with Fastening System (Total Length 15.002 Km) in Dalpura-Hadad section and Amba Mahuda to Abu Road stations in connection with Taranga hill - Abu Road Via Ambaji New Line Project in Ajmer Division, North Western Railway in the state of Rajasthan and Gujarat, **Mode of Tender:** open Tender (Two Packet), **Estimated Project Cost:** Rs. 810204267.18 (Rupees Eighty-One Crore Two Lakh Four Thousand Two Hundred Sixty-Seven and Eighteen Paisa only), **Bid Security:** Rs. 16204100.00 (Rs. One Crore Sixty-Two Lakh Four Thousand One Hundred only), **Construction Period:** 24 (Twenty-Four) Months, **Pre-Bid Conference date and Time:** 30.04.2026 at 10:30, **Pre-Bid Conference Venue:** Office of the Deputy Chief Engineer/Const.-II, Old DTC Building, Near Railway Hospital, Abu road-307026, **Tender Closing Date and Time:** 22.05.2026 15:00 Hrs., Opening date & time 22.05.2026 at 15.30 Hrs., **Website particulars where complete details of E-tender can be seen:** www.ireps.gov.in, **Note:** No manual tender/s will be accepted.

608-PS/26

Follow us at /NWRailways NWRailways_

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

Construction Organization, Ernakulam Jn

1.Tender Notice No. 5-CE-CN-ERS-2026-OT Dated 24.04.2026

Name of work: Doubling of track between Thiruvananthapuram & Kanniyakumari - **Proposed reconstruction of Br.No. 108 (ROB) @ CH 245719.71m (CN CH: 245702.34m) with 1 x 24 m effective span Composite Girder** between Neyyattinkara & Parassala stations. **Tender Value: Rs 1225.99 Lakhs, Bid Security: Rs.24,52,000/- Completion Period : 12 Months**

Date and time of tender closing: 18/05/2026. 15.00 Hrs

Complete details and tender document will be available at **https://www.ireps.gov.in**

Chief Engineer/Construction
Ernakulam Jn

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

KARNATAKA MEDICAL COLLEGE AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE, HUBBALLI

KMCRI/SUP(5)/VRDL/Tender-01/15/2026-27 Dated 24.04.2026

ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ)

ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ ಇವರು **ಅರ್ಹ ಟೆಂಡರದಾರರು, ಉತ್ಪಾದಕರು, ಅಧಿಕೃತ ಏಜೆಂಟ್ಸ್ ಮತ್ತು ಅಧಿಕೃತ ವಿತರಕರಿಂದ ಕೆ.ಎಂ.ಸಿ.&ಆರ್.ಐ. ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗೆ ಅವಶ್ಯವಿರುವ VRDL ವಿಭಾಗಕ್ಕೆ 13 ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಉಪಕರಣಗಳನ್ನು ಪೂರೈಸುವುದಕ್ಕಾಗಿ** ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಖರೀದಿ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ 1999 ಶಾಸನ 2000 ಅನ್ವಯ ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು, ಪ್ರೊಸೆಸಿಂಗ್ ಶುಲ್ಕ ಇತ್ಯಾದಿ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರಕಾರದ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ **https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯು ಯಾವುದೇ ಕಾರಣ ನೀಡದೇ ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ತಿರಸ್ಕರಿಸುವ ಅಧಿಕಾರವನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ.

ಸಹಿ/– (ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು)
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ

IN THE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - II AT BENGALURU

Telephone House, 4th Floor, BSNL Building, Rajbhavan Road, Bengaluru - 560001.

O.A. NO. 1395 / 2023

Between :
Indian Overseas Bank
East End Main Road Branch (0677), No. 42/166,
East End Main Road, Jayanagar Bangalore - 560069. ... Applicant
- V/s. -
M/s. Pradeep Surgipack,
Represented by Partners and Others ... Defendants

SUMMONS TO THE DEFENDENT UNDER RULE 23 (VII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES, 1993 BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

To,
(1) M/s. Pradeep Surgipack
Regd. Office at S-404, HM Tambourine, Kanakapura Main Road, Jaraganahalli, J.P. Nagar 6th Phase, Bengaluru - 560078.
Represented by its partners :
(1) Mr. Pradeep M. Rao S/o. Mr. Madhukar V. Rao,
(2) Mrs. Sweta Pradeep Rao W/o. Mr. Pradeep M. Rao
(2) Mr. Pradeep M. Rao S/o. Mr. Madhukar V. Rao.
R/a :- S-404, HM Tambourine, Kanakapura Main Road, Jaraganahalli, J.P. Nagar 6th Phase, Bengaluru - 560078.
(3) Mrs. Sweta Pradeep Rao W/o. Mr. Pradeep M. Rao
R/a :- S-404, HM Tambourine, Kanakapura Main Road, Jaraganahalli, J.P. Nagar 6th Phase, Bengaluru - 560078. **... Defendants**

Whereas, the Applicant named above has instituted an Application under Sec. 19 of Recovery of Debts Due to the Bank and Financial Institution Act, 1993 against you for recovery of a sum of **Rs. 92,44,426.46 (Rupees Ninety Two Lacs Forty Four Thousand Four Hundred and Twenty Six Paise Forty Six Only)** with future interest, cost and such other reliefs. You are hereby required to Show Cause on **03-08-2026 at 10.30 A.M.** in the forenoon in person or by a Pleader / Advocate duly instructed as to why the relief prayed should not be granted.

Take notice that in case default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, on this **18th Day of April, 2026.**

Address for Service :
S.N. Keshava Bhat & Rudresh .S, Advocate
No. 2/1, Yadava College Road,
Madhava Nagara, Bangalore - 560 001.

Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal - II
Bangalore.

GREATER VISAKHAPATNAM MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Tender Notice No. : 02/2026-27/SE(BML)/EE-I/DB, Dt: 24-04-2026
Number of works : 4 Works, Value of work Rs.4,45,30,370/-
Tender Downloading : Dt.24-04-2026, Closing Date: 11-05-2026
Note: Further details at http://www.tender.apeprocurement.gov.in
O/o the EE-I Cell No.7995333308

Sd/- Commissioner, GVMC

UJVN LIMITED

H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephones: 0135-2763808, Fax: 0135-2763508
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866 Website: www.ujvnl.com

Letter No: 341 Date: 25/04/2026

Corrigendum No.- 09 (Time Extension)
e-Tender Notice

Due to unavoidable reasons, the dates of e-Tender No. 01/DGM(E&M D-I)/UJVNL/2025-26 invited by Office of the Dy. General Manager, E&M Design-I, UJVN Ltd., Ganga Bhawan, Yamuna Colony, Dehradun (Uttarakhand) are hereby extended as follows:

Last date for submission of bids on website: 04.05.2026 up to 17:00 Hrs.
Last date for submission of Original documents (Hard Copies): 07.05.2026 up to 17:00 Hrs.
Date & Time of Opening of Technical Bid on Portal: 08.05.2026 from 11:00 Hrs.
Details of subsequent addendum/corrigendum/cancellation etc. may be obtained from e-procurement portal **"http://uktenders.gov.in"**

Dy. General Manager (E&M Design-I)

"AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY"

autonomous Institute under Government of Karnataka

K .H. PATIL INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, GADAG

Formerly called as Gadag Institute of Medical Sciences, Gadag
Mulagunda Road, Mallasamudra Gadag - 582103
Phone No. 08372-200601 E-mail Id: gimsgadag@gmail.com
Website : www. gimsgadag.karnataka gov.in

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಕೆ.ಎಚ್.ಪಿವೈವಿಸಂ/ಟೆಂಡರ್/CPRT/07/2026–27 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 24.04.2026

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Call of Tablets Tenders, to K H Patil Institute of Medical Sciences, Teaching Hospital Gadag. Tender has been floated in E-Portal **DME/2025-26/IND2145 (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/)** Interested Institutions, Manufacturers and suppliers can visit above website from **25.04.2026** to **14.05.2026** by evening **4:00 PM,** If any queries contact below Signed Person in time of Govt Working Days.

Sd/- Director
K H Patil Institute of Medical Sciences, Gadag

DIPR/Gadag/40/Deshpandepublicity/2026-27

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given to the public that our client intends to purchase the vacant converted land situated at Kambeepura Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore District, which is more particularly described in the Schedule hereunder written and hereinafter referred to as the **"Schedule Property"**, from its Owners.

ALL persons including an individual, a Hindu Undivided Family, a company, banks, financial institution(s), non- banking financial institution(s), a firm, an association of persons or a body of individuals whether incorporated or not, lenders and/or creditors having any objection, claim, right, title and/or interest in respect of Schedule Property or any part or portion thereof by way of sale, memorandum of understanding, exchange, mortgage, pledge, charge, gift, trust, inheritance, bequest, succession, family arrangement, grant, possession, lease, sub-lease tenancy, sub-tenancy, maintenance easement, license, bequeath, share, assignment, lien, attachment, development rights, covenant, settlement right of way, lis pendens, reservation, agreement, FSI consumption, development rights, order/decree/judgement of court or any liability or commitment or otherwise or demand of any nature whatsoever are hereby requested to inform the same in writing, supported with the original documents, to the undersigned having their office at 6/12, Gurappa Avenue, Primrose Road, Bengaluru - 560025 within a period of 10 (ten) days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, the claim or claims, if any, of such person or persons shall be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned and our client would be at liberty to proceed with the intended transaction in connection with the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the vacant converted land mentioned hereinbelow, situated at Kambeepura Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore District:

Property bearing No. 150200300200123453 (portion of the property having Assessment No.600/594/48/1 48/2 43/30) measuring 3038.170000 Sq. Mts (32,702 Sq.ft), Bounded by:
East by : Nala,
West by : Bangalore - Mysore Road,
North by : Remaining portion of Sy.No. 48/1 & 48/2,
South by : Remaining portion of Survey No. 43/30.

Sd/-.,
Mr. S T Prashantha Kumar,
Senior Partner & Advocate
Mr. B.C. Keerthi Kishore,
Practice Head & Advocate
Fox Mandal & Associates, Solicitors & Advocates,
FM House, 6/12, Primrose Road, Bangalore – 560025, Karnataka, India
Phone: +91 80 2559 5911, e-mail: prashantha.kumar@foxmandal.in

Place: Bengaluru
Date: 25.04.2026

Government of Karnataka

PUBLIC WORKS, DEPARTMENT

Office of the Executive Engineer, Chamarajanagara Division, Chamarajanagara
Phone/Fax: 08226-222027 e-mail: eecnr@kpwd.gov.in/pwdeechngr@gmail.com

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Through Kppp.karnataka.gov.in portal only)

H(Two Cover System: Section-1-Technical Bid and Section-2-Financial Bid)

Short Term Tender Notification No 06/2026-27 Dated:23.04.2026 (Call-2)

Item rate tenders are invited through Kppp.karnataka.gov.in portal only on behalf of Governer of Karnataka from Eligible registered civil Contractor in KPWD in Standard Bid document **KW-4** form The Total no of works is 1, **H/A : 8443 DC Work** maximum estimated cost is Rs, 9000.00 lakhs, Further changes in this Notification will be Published in Kppp.karnataka.gov.in Only. Date of events as follows:

1	Date and Time for downloading the tender document from the Kppp.karnataka.gov.in portal	From 24.04.2026 to 08.5.2026 upto 16.00 Hrs.
2	Pre-Bid Meeting Date	30.04.2026 in Division Office Meeting Hall at 11.00 AM
3	downloading the tender document from the Last Date and Time	08.05.2026 Up to 16.00 Hrs.
4	Date & Time for opening of Technical bid	11.05.2026 after 16.30 Hrs.
5	Date & Time for opening of Financial bid	18.05.2026 Morning 11.00 AM

More information can be had from the web site: **https://www.Kppp.karnataka.Gov.in** & Any other details required can be obtained from office of the under signed during office hours.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
PWD Division,
Chamarajanagar.

NO: DIPR:CHANAGAR:68:2026-27

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank (A Government of India Undertaking)

Viveknagar Branch (DP:0790),
#1, 1st Main Road, Viveknagar, S.O Bengaluru-560047.
Ph: 9483520790, E-mail:cb0790@canarabank.com

(Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Property)

SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the contructive/physical (Strike whichever is not applicable) possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of **Canara Bank, Viveknagar Branch [0790]** will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" on 11.05.2026,** for recovery of **Rs.5,28,292.41 (rupees Five Lakh Twenty Eight Thousand Two Hundred And Ninety Two And Paisa Forty One Only)** as on **22.04.2026** with further interest and other charges thereon due to the **Viveknagar Branch [0790]** of Canara Bank from **Borrower/s (1) Bhapanamma P (Borrower)** W/o Kondaiah, No. 11/1, 2nd Main Road, Sonnenahalli, Viveknagar, Bengaluru-560047. **(2) Kondaiah P.M. (Co-borrower),** No.11/1, 2nd Main Road, Sonnenahalli, Viveknagar, Bengaluru-560047. **(3) Kondal Rao L. (Referred as Guarantor).** S/o Subbarayudu, No.64, 1st Cross, Anjenaya Road, Sonnenahalli, Viveknagar, Bengaluru-560047.

The Reserve Price and Earnest Money Deposits details are as under: The Earnest Money shall be deposited in E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT on or before **10.05.2026 by 4.00 PM.**

(Rs. in lakhs)

Description of Immovable	Reserve Price	EMD Amount	Incremental value at Bid
Name of Title Holder : Bhapanamma P W/o Kondaiah. **SCHEDULE A: Alur Residential Block - B16/204** All that piece and Parcel of the property bearing No. 128, in block No.13,14,15 & 16 formed out of Survey No. 113, formed by Bengaluru Development Authority, Situated at Alur Village, along with the building standing there on, measuring North to South 44.00 meters and East to West 60.00 meters, thus in all measuring 2640.00 Square Meters and bounded on the: East by: Property belonging to BDA, West by: Passage, North by: Road, South by: Road. **SCHEDULE B:** 33.526 Square Meters of undivided share, right title and interest and ownership in the schedule **'A'** Property. **SCHEDULE C:** Residential Flat No. B16/204 on the second floor in block No.16, of Alur Layout, measuring 33.526 square meters of Built up area comprising of 1BHK constructed on the schedule 'A' property and proportionate common areas, such as Passage, Staircase, Lift etc., and have the exclusive right to use and enjoy the same without any interruption from other co-owners of the building and bounded on the East by: House No. B16/203, West by: House No. B16/205, North by: House No. B16/201, South by: Passage. **CERSAI Security ID: 400013632554**	Rs. 13,35,000/-	Rs. 1,33,500/-	Rs. 10,000/-

Date & Time of Auction : 11.05.2026 , 10.30 AM to 11.30 PM, Date of Sale Notice : 22.04.2026.

Property Inspection Date : with prior appointment with Authorised Officer, from 23-04-2026 to 10-05-2026 between 11.00 A.M to 4.00P.M

Place of Auction : Online, https://baanknet.com

Known encumbrances, if any: There are no encumbrances to the knowledge of the Bank.

Details of Auction service provider: M/s.PSB Alliance Pvt Ltd

For further details contact Authorised Officer RO East / Canara Bank, Viveknagar Branch, 1, 1st Main Road, Viveknagar S. O, Viveknagar, Bangalore 560047 Ph: 9483520790 e-mail: cb0790@canarabank.com during office hours on any working day or the service provider E-bkray (M/s PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd), (Contact No.8291220220, Email:support.baanknet@psballiance.com)

Note: All charges including property tax, Electricity charges, Water Bills and Maintenance charges etc if any other charges shall be borne by the successful bidder only.

Date : 24.04.2026
Place: Bengaluru

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

In today's capitalistic society, there are ranks and classes that are invisible to the eye. We superficially look down on hierarchies as a relic of the past, but there are class lines that cannot be crossed

Bong Joon-ho

TRUMP'S HELLHOLE AND THE WORLD ORDER OF INSULTS

THE THIRD EYE

SHANKKAR AIYAR
Author of *The Gated Republic, Aadhaar: A Biometric History of India's 12 Digit Revolution*, and *Accidental India*
(shankkar.aiyar@gmail.com)

THE taxonomy of global influence—the framework of persuasion and power—is scaffolded by binary behavioural bookends. Nations who wield their influence silently and well, build strength and alliances. Those who wield it with contempt build resentment, engender faultlines within and without. Donald J Trump is weaponising contempt, defining the world order of insults.

Diplomacy is a process for managing mutual interests. Trump is replacing it with a 'Hellhole Doctrine'. Since his return to the White House, he has deployed systematic verbal assault on nations as an instrument of subjugation. It doesn't matter to Trump and minders kissing his ring that the authority of the United States is leaking through a sieve of verbal bile.

Every week, the presidential pulpit hosts a parade of 'Truths' used to hurl insults. Not long back amid the tariff wars, Trump declared India, with a GDP growing at 7.8 percent, was a "dead economy". This week, Trump endorsed a rant dubbing India (and China) as "hellholes". That is rich coming from a regime that notched a record for shutting government for 44 days, and is witness to 63 school shootings in just four months and over 200 drug deaths a day.

Trump's utterances often reflect the eternal sunshine of a spotless mind—riveted in ignorance, intentionally rude and divorced from facts. His tirades follow a singular pattern: the bully's mandate of "my way or the highway". Earlier this month, he issued a chillingly crude ultimatum to Iran: "Open the f*****' Strait... or you'll be living in hell." He also threatened to wipe out the "entire civilisation" of Iran!

Trump wants Canada to be the 51st state, labelling it a "freeloader" and predicting that "China will eat it alive". He says Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum is irrelevant because "the cartels are running Mexico". Unfettered by niceties, Trump said at the UN that Brazil will do poorly because "it is led by a man who prefers the failed ideologies", while Lula da Silva was in the room.

On Wednesday, Trump mimicked UK PM Keir Starmer, calling him "weak and indecisive", with a poor choice of friends. When Europe declined to join the conflict with Iran, he branded them "cowards". Even the Vatican is not exempt. He targeted Pope Leo XIV, stating: "I don't think he's doing a very good job. He likes crime, I guess." Why? Because the Pope urged an end to wars.

The obsession for domination is explained by Henri Tajfel's Social Identity Theory. Individuals define and bolster self-identity by running down others, by redefining their own status as higher and better than others. It has been argued that the 'hellhole' rhetoric is crafted to uplift the sentiments of a domestic audience anxious about displacement and distress. Maybe so, but there is no question that insults have lasting consequences.

In Trumpistan, nations are cast, publicly and repeatedly, as liabilities, freeloaders or threats—setting the stage for tariffs, coercive deals and unilateral resets. In this reordered script of power, the insult is the opening bid. Unsurprisingly, the world is left wondering if it was witnessing a masterclass in 'dominance signalling' or the messy markers of a cognitive collapse.

The question is not whether this is unprecedented—it plainly is. No American president in the modern era has publicly degraded allies, civilisations and partners at this frequency, with this abandon and at this diplomatic cost. The question is: what explains it? Political analysts may see strategy in Trump's behaviour, including a madman theory spouted by pundits every time Trump is seen as going off the hinge on tariffs, migration or wars.

Nobody quite knows if the madman pitch is strategy or camouflage. Everyone is interpreting the symptoms. Neuropsychologists see it differently from political pundits. Science says that the lack of impulse control and social judgement triggers a condition called disinhibition, which results in inappropriate verbal or physical acts that fail to conform to accepted norms.

Trump is known to burnish language and facts. As George R R Martin writes in *The Game of Thrones*, "Any man who must say 'I am the king' is no true king." The repeated use of superlatives about the self illuminates a curious condition. Otto Kernberg's construct of malignant narcissism holds answers. The Austrian psychoanalyst puts it as the psychosis of a person beset by paradoxes—self-inflation, limitless need for praise and intense envy bubbling behind a façade of confidence.

There is much lather about cognitive questions. Many, including some elected officials, are suddenly reading up and discussing the 25th Amendment to the US Constitution which sets the framework for "presidential disability and succession". The question and its answers are for the American people to divine and define. The world, meanwhile, is concerned about the consequences of the hellhole doctrine.

The comity of nations is clearly offended and is rewiring alliances and systems. Europe is inducting alternatives to SWIFT for interbank transfers, with the Switzerland-based Bank for International Settlements reviewing options. France has repatriated its gold out of the US and Germany may follow suit. Trump is now viewed as a toxic asset by Europe's far right. The US must now contend with Iran along with Russia and China. The US president's actions have accelerated what his country thwarted for decades—the emergence of a multipolar world order.

KOREA EARNS. INDIA PAYS. WHO DICTATES?

POWER & POLITICS

PRABHU CHAWLA
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Follow him on X @PrabhuChawla

THERE is a particular kind of perfidy that arrives dressed as fortuity. It arrives with ceremonial fanfare and departs with your wealth. India has been living this betrayal for 16 years. It is only now finding the vocabulary to name it.

Recently, a day before South Korean President Lee Jae Myung's aircraft touched down at Palam, the foreign ministry held its customary pre-visit briefing at South Block. While briefing the reporters, Secretary (East) P Kumaran made an unusual disclosure: "Bilateral trade is close to $27 billion, but it is quite unbalanced. Our exports are in the range of about $6.5 billion, while Korea's is about $21.35 billion. So there is a need to rebalance the CEPA (Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement)."

The sentence was deliberate and it wasn't a diplomatic deviation. It was the government publicly naming an asymmetry that had gone diplomatically unspoken for 16 years. What followed—the handshakes, the fanfare, the 16 MoUs, the headline promise of doubling bilateral trade to $54 billion by 2030—must be read against that uncomfortable reality.

India's exports to South Korea plummeted to $5.82 billion in 2024-25, as against $8 billion in 2021-22. Korean exports to India have surged to $21.06 billion over the same time. The trade deficit, at $15.2 billion in 2024-25, has roughly tripled since the 2010 CEPA came into force. Indian exports to Korea contracted at an 11 percent compound annual rate between 2021-22 and 2023-24, while Korean imports grew 10 percent a year. Fifteen years of CEPA have tripled the gap that the 2030 trade target will now have to close.

The roughly $50-billion bilateral target Modi and Lee announced is not new. Moon Jae-in and Modi set the same goal in 2019. What is new is Delhi's public acknowledgement that hitting that number without fixing the ratio would simply enlarge the chasm.

At the heart of the outrage stand the Korean blue-chip subsidiaries whose Indian operations now dwarf their parents in perceived value and cash-generation power. For example, LG Electronics India reported revenue of ₹24,366 crore and a net profit of ₹2,203 crore last year, up 46 percent year-on-year. Royalty payments to the South Korean parent reached ₹454.61 crore. But the real headline came with its October 2025 IPO: the Indian subsidiary's market capitalisation surged to approximately $13 billion upon listing, eclipsing its South Korean parent's market cap of about $9 billion at the time on the Seoul exchange. In one stroke, LG India's net worth in the eyes of global investors surpassed that of its Korean headquarters'. And it was purely due to generous policy environment.

X.COM

Maruti Suzuki had earlier achieved the same inversion. India's largest carmaker has recently been worth approximately $57 billion, more than double its Japanese parent Suzuki Motor Corp's market cap. The pattern is not coincidental. It is structural.

Hyundai Motor India and its sibling Kia tell a similar tale of extraction masked as investment. Last year, the company reported consolidated revenue of approximately ₹69,193 crore and a profit after tax of ₹5,640 crore. Its IPO, India's largest, raised $3.3 billion through an offer-for-sale mechanism, with the entire proceeds flowing to the Korean parent rather than to the Indian subsidiary. Royalty payments stand at 3.5 percent of sales revenue, mysteriously raised from 2.5 percent in earlier years, translating into thousands of crores annually repatriated to Seoul. Together, these auto majors command nearly 20 percent of India's passenger vehicle market. Such an anomaly has left Tata Motors and Mahindra to fight an uphill battle against what many term subsidised Korean pricing power.

Samsung India completes the triumvirate of value extractors. Its revenue for the first time crossed ₹1.11 lakh crore during 2025, making it the only consumer-electronics firm in India to cross the trillion-rupee mark. During 2024, its net profit stood at ₹8,188 crore on revenue of ₹99,541 crore, while royalty remittances to the Korean parent hit ₹3,322 crore, roughly 40 percent of that year's net profit. Retained earnings have ballooned and been diverted to Vietnam.

Even Japanese major Suzuki, through its Maruti Suzuki India avatar, has come under parallel attack for similar preferential treatment. Long accused of royalty structures that siphon significant portions of profit, the message from Indian auto captains is clear: when foreign giants, Korean or Japanese, enjoy duty arbitrage, technology-transfer loopholes and policy sweeteners, domestic firms bleed competitiveness. Indian policymakers, they allege, have been influenced into crafting an environment where FDI is feted while local investors shoulder the risk without equivalent reward.

The most galling dimension for many is the Vietnam paradox. Korea's cumulative FDI in India stood at about $10 billion till 2024, despite India's economy being 10 times larger than Vietnam's. Profits earned from Indian consumers through high royalties, IPO cash-outs and dividend flows are effectively subsidising Vietnamese factories that then export finished goods back into India. Why? Swadeshi leaders ask this in rising chorus: should Korean conglomerates plough cash extracted from India into manufacturing facilities in a smaller neighbour that then undercuts Indian industry? The optics is toxic: India as a lucrative cash cow, Vietnam as the preferred factory floor.

This is no abstract economic grievance. It strikes at the soul of India's self-reliance narrative. Decades of liberalisation were sold on the promise that FDI would catalyse domestic industry, transfer technology and create balanced growth. Instead, the policy has tilted towards foreign giants who repatriate profits, royalties, special dividends and IPO proceeds liberally.

On the other hand, Indian firms struggle with higher compliance costs, delayed approvals, and a royalty burden that starves local innovation. As CEPA upgrade talks accelerate post the Lee visit, the moment of reckoning has arrived. Yet the fundamental question lingers: will Delhi muster the courage to rewrite the rules, or will Korean or Japanese influence once again preserve status quo that extracts wealth while eroding India's industrial sovereignty?

The answer to that question will define not merely the future of India-Korea trade relations, but the credibility of every strategic partnership India signs from this point forward. CEPA should be rewritten not by negotiators who measure success in MoU counts, but by those who measure it in industrial jobs created and domestic enterprises strengthened.

India possesses the leverage it has never previously exercised. It's the world's largest consumer market and the world's fastest-growing major economy. The future will reveal whether New Delhi's negotiators, seated across from their Korean counterparts, have the institutional will to block the outflow, or whether India, once again, signs the documents, hosts the dinner and watches the profits leave on the next flight to Seoul.

MACHH ADO ABOUT SOMETHING OR OTHER

REVERSE SWING

MADHAVAN NARAYANAN
Senior journalist
Follow him on X @madversity

SOMETHING is truly fishy in the West Bengal Assembly elections this year, with food becoming a centrepiece of the campaign. Folks in West Bengal, where Rabindranath Tagore famously wrote "*Ekla chalo re*" (Go it alone), may want to use the tune to sing along with a parody: "*Katla bolo re*" (Say fish).

After Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee warned Bengalis that the BJP may end up banning Bengal's favourite fish, meat and even eggs, BJP candidates Sharadwat Mukherjee and Koustav Bagchi held up large *katla* fish or carp as he moved door-to-door to canvass for votes. To drive home the point, Union minister Anurag Thakur munched on fish fry in front of a BJP poster to dispel the notion that his party was ichthyophobic.

You can't say it is a case of '*Machh* ado about nothing'. Fish has deep sentimental value in Bengal. Someone helpfully reeled in the estimate that about 65 percent of West Bengal's citizens, who account for more than 6 crore voters, consume fish at least once a week. Clearly, ideology—or food for thought—has taken a backseat to cuisine—or thought for food.

Narendra Modi, not to miss a symbolism, carefully posed with jhalmuri, Bengal's favourite afternoon snack of puffed rice adorned with a mix of spicy allies—call it a quickly-put-together culinary coalition wrapped in yesterday's newspaper. In Purulia, the Prime Minister claimed the district's citizens would celebrate on May 4 by eating the favourite local fritter, bhabra baja. There was also mention of jhalmuri as an official celebration snack for the party aiming to storm into the Writers' Building in Kolkata.

Such food symbolism isn't new for the party. BJP workers had celebrated their victory in Bihar's Assembly elections last year by gorging on parathas stuffed with sattu, the nutritious Bihari staple of ground chickpeas.

But the sight of TV channels falling over each other trying to explain the importance of jhalmuri was difficult to digest. One report claimed netizens had searched the term more than 10 crore times on Google. I won't be surprised now if there is a political web series titled 'Jhalmuri in Jalpaiguri' filmed on a thriller plotline complete with Bangladeshi infiltrators and Darjeeling tea.

The final lap of Bengal's cut-throat election campaign is literally coming to a crunch. But food as an election staple not restricted to Bengal. Food supplies, grain prices and socialising around eateries are all part of the election playbook across India and indeed much of the world.

In Tamil Nadu, biryani has been the traditional bait to lure large crowds to campaign rallies. The Election Commission, evidently aware of this, has imposed price caps on how much candidates can spend on food to limit poll expenses and probably crack down on gluttony for votes. A candidate is not allowed to spend more than ₹350 per head on non-vegetarian meals and ₹110 on vegetarian ones.

Whether with jhalmuri or fish, the warring parties in Bengal have made food a staple of the poll campaign this time. History shows it wasn't the first food fight over votes, at home or away

In the early 1980s, Telugu Desam Party founder N T Rama Rao stormed to power in undivided Andhra Pradesh with an offer of rice at ₹2 a kilo. HIs successor, son-in-law and current Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, is believed to have lost in 2004 partly because he reduced rice subsidies.

In 2006, DMK leader M Karunanidhi also promised rice at ₹2 to win votes, and even did a reverse swing subsequently—offering it at ₹1 a kilo in 2008, setting the populist stage for the generations to come.

Statements made by politicians around food are a regular part of poll banter. BJP supporters used to mock Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for squatting in a Dalit home to eat a meal as a symbolic act of equality. But a few years later, Home Minister Amit Shah was clicked relishing meals in Dalit homes in Odisha and Bengal, much like the Nehru family scion.

In Tamil Nadu, candidates often toss dosas on hot griddles at roadside eateries in amusing acts of camaraderie with the *hoi polloi*. Such visually evocative rituals are increasingly part of well-thought-out media campaigns.

Food metaphors can be easily mixed, too. In his election speeches, Thol Thirumavalavan of DMK ally VCK played with election symbols in Tamil. He said the corns in CPI's Sickle-and-Corn symbol can be cooked in VCK's Mudpot, whereas rival AIADMK's Two Leaves can neither grow the BJP's Lotus, nor yield the PMK's Mango.

American presidential candidates routinely plan campaign stops at shops selling unhealthy fast foods. The British have their own food fetishes. In 2012, a mini scandal called 'Pastygate' erupted after David Cameron's Conservative government proposed a 20 percent tax on hot takeaways including pasties, best described to Indians as a distant baked cousin of the samosa. The proposed tax was shelved, but not before Cameron lost face after saying that he himself had relished the working class dish at an eatery. The eatery was later found to have been closed for years.

We cannot be sure if Cameron had egg or pasty crumbs on his face. But politically evocative food issues are definitely something to be chewed over.

(Views are personal)

QUOTE CORNER

Their perception of risk and reliability will change. Governments will review their energy strategies. There will be a significant boost to renewables and nuclear power and a further shift towards a more electrified future. And this will cut into the main markets for oil.

Fatih Birol, executive director of the International Energy Agency, explaining how the Gulf war has changed the fossil fuel industry forever

Where the death penalty closes the book, life imprisonment forces the offender to read every page, again and again, for the rest of their existence.

Justice N Anand Venkatesh of Madras High Court, commuting the death sentence of a man convicted of sexually assaulting his daughter

It's a truth universally acknowledged that a single country in possession of a large civilisation will not negotiate under threat and force.

Reza Amiri Moghadam, Iranian ambassador to Pakistan, parodying the famous opening line of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*

MAILBAG

WRITE TO letters@newindianexpress.com

Electoral currency

Ref: *The narratives playing in poll battlegrounds* (Apr 25). Radhika Ramaseshan's analysis cuts through the noise. What stands out is how identity and symbolism are increasingly displacing governance as electoral currency. Voters deserve campaigns built around accountability, not managed narratives. Both the SIR controversy and TVK's rise signal that citizens are far more discerning than the parties assume.

Swathi Senthilkumar, Coimbatore

Mandate subverted

Ref: *AAP-ration Lotus in RS* (Apr 25). Regardless of the constitutional validity of switching loyalty from the AAP to the BJP, this action has certainly dented people's trust in electoral democracy. The growing use of money and power smells foul. To curb such political diversion, a law is needed that bans such deception of the public, mandating that MPs/MLAs should resign and contest elections again from the party in which they now hold faith.

Ramesh Kumar Kalra, Lucknow

Wayanad solution

Ref: *Joint checks begin for 178 houses* (Apr 21). As an 84-year-old chartered engineer, I have strong reservations as to whether the proposed measures—such as epoxy injection and waterproofing—will provide a durable solution for the Wayanad houses. Technically, leakage through a slab points to construction deficiencies. Persistent moisture absorption can lead to corrosion, cracking and spalling, adversely affecting long-term structural durability—often becoming evident only after the defect liability period. Once this period lapses, maintenance responsibility shifts to the occupants. Therefore, defects must be rectified before handing over the houses. An independent committee comprising a structural engineer, an architect, and representatives from IIT/NIT should be constituted to identify the root cause and recommend a durable solution.

P K N Namboothiry, Pathanamthitta

Tower protest

Ref: *18-month protest ends* (Page 1 picture, Apr 25). The report of a man spending 560 days atop a 400-foot BSNL tower near Patiala to protest the use of sacrilege law is a feat surpassing Hollywood survival tales. His endurance implies steady ground support—food, water and other arrangements for survival. The greater mystery is the official silence. The reasons behind this silence need clarification.

R S Narula, Patiala

Tainted representatives

Ref: *Gujarat EC lifts bar on polling agents with criminal records* (Apr 25). The report is deeply sardonic. A large share of the people's representatives sitting in our legislatures faces substantial court cases. These leaders are still drafting laws for the people, which is obviously disgraceful for our democracy. We need more comprehensive changes to electoral laws to plug loopholes and give the Election Commission the power to disqualify criminals from contesting or acting as poll agents.

Thomas K M, Muvattupuzha

Mango crisis

Ref: *West Asia war hits Andhra's mango pulp exports* (Apr 21). The crisis is painful for us. With 90 percent of the pulp stocks remaining in warehouses, the processing units are not getting paid by importers. Chittoor district is a global hub for mango production. The government needs to intervene immediately and arrange for remedial measures to move the stocks and get business up and going.

Bolloju Meghandham, Visakhapatnam

Performance ebb

Ref: *Shafali climbs two spots* (Apr 21). The adage that 'Every tide has its ebb' is being amply proved by the slump in the women's cricket team's performance. After their historic win against South Africa to lift the ICC World Cup in November, followed by a whitewash of Sri Lanka and a T20 series win against Australia, the team is now heading south. They lost the Australia ODI series and suffered a drubbing in the lone Test. Now they have only two matches to salvage some pride against South Africa.

Vaithianathan Subramanian, Madurai

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Chairman of the Board: **Manoj Kumar Sonthalia** Editor: **Santwana Bhattacharya**

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POSTS OF THE DAY

Sachin Pilot @SachinPilot
News of the deaths and injuries of several laborers due to a fire in a scrap warehouse in the Neemrana area is heart-wrenching.

Akhilesh Yadav @yadavakhilesh
A new trend has started under BJP govt where first the domineering ruling powers enable atrocities, then coerce the victim into changing their statement

Yogi Adityanath @myogiadityanath
The meaning of Double Engine Government is the security and respect for women and their rights for the poor, weak, and Dalits

DRDO unveils amphibious battle platforms

Prototypes designed to operate across terrains, protect crew without compromising on engagement capability

JAVARIA RANA @ New Delhi

THE Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) on Saturday unveiled prototypes of two Advanced Armoured Platforms (AAPs) in tracked and wheeled configurations, in a renewed push to revive India's Future Infantry Combat Vehicle (FICV) programme, with Tata Advanced Systems and Bharat Forgenamed as development-cum-production partners.

The prototypes, have a crewed turret, are amphibious and can launch Anti-Tank Guided Missiles (ATGMs). These are intended to eventually replace the Army's ageing fleet of BMP-2 infantry combat vehicles, which remain the backbone of mechanised infantry formations but are increasingly seen as vulnerable to drones, loitering munitions and precision anti-armour weapons.

According to a government statement released on Saturday, both platforms are equipped with an indigenously developed 30 mm crewless turret with "advanced features to meet mobility, firepower and protection requirements".

It added that a high-power engine and automatic transmission give the vehicles a strong power-to-weight ratio, enabling higher speeds and improved obstacle negotiation.

The vehicles offer "STANAG Level 4 and 5 protection with modular blast and ballistic protection all around," the statement read, which means they are designed to withstand heavy machine gun fire and even cannon-level threats, while protecting against blasts.

Importantly, the platforms are amphibious, with hydro-jet propulsion allowing them to cross rivers and water obstacles without external support.

"The 30 mm crewless turret, along with the 7.62 mm PKT gun, is configured to launch anti-tank guided missiles, with base design adaptable for multiple roles," the statement added.

Sources in the defence establishment told this newspaper that the platforms have been built around current mechanised infantry requirements, with a clear emphasis on mobility across varied terrain.

"The 25-tonne class vehicle is designed to move fast on roads, hold its own cross-country and still retain amphibious capability," the source said, adding that the platform can operate across plains, deserts and rivers without specialised support.

That combination, the source explained, is critical in the Indian context, where formations often have to deal with canals, rivers and broken terrain along the western front.

"It also has the endurance to sustain operations, around 400 km on roads and 300 km cross-country and can handle steep gradients and other such obstacles," the source added.

But the bigger shift, the source said, is in survivability. "The focus has been on keeping the crew protected while retaining combat effectiveness. You have modular armour, blast-protected seating and full CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear) protection, with room to integrate active protection systems and other emerging technologies."

On firepower, the platform is designed to engage across threat types. "The crewless turret integrates a 30 mm cannon, a coaxial gun and a twin anti-tank guided missile launcher. That allows it to take on armour, infantry and even aerial threats," the source said.

The configuration itself is important. "The gunner and commander operate from within the hull using stabilised sights and fire control systems. That reduces exposure and improves survivability without compromising engagement capability," the source explained.

The push for such platforms comes as legacy systems face increasing pressure in modern conflicts. The BMP-2 'Sarath' still provides mobility and basic firepower, but survivability and battlefield awareness are the key gaps. Recent conflicts have underscored the need for a shift, as drones, loitering munitions and precision anti-armour systems have exposed the vulnerabilities of older infantry combat vehicles.

The FICV programme was first cleared in 2008 to induct over 1,700 tracked infantry combat vehicles but has since been repeatedly reworked and relaunched without moving beyond the prototype stage. The delay has forced the Army to continue extending the life of BMP-2 fleet through upgrades.

Tata Advanced Systems which is a part of this project is also expected to draw on its experience with the Wheeled Armoured Platform (WHAP), an amphibious 8x8 vehicle that has so far seen limited induction for trials and niche deployments, including in Ladakh.

Parallel discussions with the United States over co-producing the Stryker wheeled ICV have meanwhile remained in limbo over technology transfer and production terms. Its lack of amphibious capability has also remained a sticking point.

TRACKED AND WHEELED PLATFORMS FEATURE AN INDIGENOUS 30 MM CREWLESS TURRET AND HYDRO-JET PROPULSION, ENABLING RIVER AND WATER OBSTACLE CROSSING

Intended to replace the Army's ageing BMP-2 'Sarath' fleet, which faces growing vulnerabilities in modern combat

Another ***level-up***

PART OF EFFORTS TO REVIVE THE ARMY'S LONG-DELAYED FUTURE INFANTRY COMBAT VEHICLE (FICV) PROGRAMME CLEARED IN 2008

STANAG Level 4 & 5 protection offers resistance against heavy gunfire

Developed with Tata Advanced Systems & Bharat Forge, with MSME support

INDIGENOUS CONTENT AT 65%, TO RISE TO 90%. EQUIPPED WITH A 30 MM CANNON, 7.62 MM GUN AND ANTI-TANK MISSILE CAPABILITY

Currently at prototype level; timelines for induction depend on trials and procurement decisions

RAGHAV CHADHA

EXIT OF THE POLICY MIND AND ITS ECHO

IFRAH MUFTI & ANUP VERMA

SOURAV ROY

THAT instinct for order has long defined Raghav Chadha. Chartered accountant by training, policy thinker by habit, and politician by necessity, he entered politics with an unusual sense of control in a space often driven by noise. His speech rarely meanders, his arguments tightly built, and even his disagreements arrive with preparation.

For years, he stood out as one of the more visible young leaders of the AAP in Parliament. In the House, he often came across as someone examining public policy with the care of an auditor—quiet, exact, and methodical.

His background was far removed from politics. Coming from a financially stable family, he studied at Modern School and Delhi University before qualifying as a CA. His time at London School of Economics further widened his outlook and strengthened his reliance on data and reasoning. This shaped his early public image, where he was noticed for arguments grounded in facts rather than ideology, especially among urban, educated voters.

Close ties with the leadership, especially Arvind Kejriwal, helped him gain trust within the party. Often seen alongside the leadership, he became a key part of shaping its economic messaging and policy communication. Over time, he emerged as one of the party's prominent young faces.

His rise within AAP was quick, as the party expanded beyond Delhi into states like Punjab. After winning the Rajinder Nagar seat in 2020, he was given administrative responsibilities, including work with Delhi Jal Board. His later entry into the Rajya Sabha marked a clear step up in responsibility. In Parliament, he spoke on governance and regulatory issues.

In the Upper House, his interventions were marked by clarity. In recent months, he increasingly positioned himself as a voice for everyday concerns, especially outside Parliament, raising issues such as airline delays, mobile data rules, pricing pressures, and household costs. Over time, his focus shifted more toward public-facing problems, amplified by regular parliamentary questions and active digital engagement.

This shift did not go unnoticed. While some saw it as a natural evolution toward broader public relevance, others questioned his focus on "softer" issues.

Within AAP, internal dynamics began to change as well. Differences over communication and positioning were quietly discussed in Delhi's political circles. His role appeared less central than before, and changes in responsibilities led to speculation about his standing within the leadership.

The strain became more visible during the arrest of Kejriwal in the Delhi excise policy case. As senior leaders took a strong public stance, Chadha's response was more limited and weak. His absence from the front line of messaging, reportedly due to health-related travel, drew attention. For someone previously seen as an active defender of the party line, this restraint stood out.

Tensions grew further during the controversy involving Swati Maliwal, following an alleged altercation linked to party leadership. As divisions within the party became sharper, Chadha kept his distance from the dispute.

NEWSMAKER

That position of neutrality, in a charged atmosphere, drew criticism from within sections of the party. In some circles, it was read not as caution but as a lack of alignment, and talk of "traitor" began to surface in political conversation.

His position weakened after he was removed as Deputy Leader in the Rajya Sabha. By April 24, speculation had turned into reality. He left AAP and joined BJP along with six MPs. He said he felt "silenced" in his former party and described his move as an effort to regain space to speak freely on issues.

Supporters see his move as part of a broader pattern in personality-driven political parties, where internal shifts often lead to exits. His marriage to actor Parineeti Chopra had already made him more visible beyond politics, adding public attention to his personal life.

Today, his path stands at a new and uncertain stage. How does a politician shaped by structured thinking adjust to a more ideologically driven environment? And how does he engage with ex-colleagues as political language around him changes?

In that contrast lies the next phase of his public life.

Centre plans AI-driven study for accurate flood forecasting this monsoon

JITENDRA CHOUBEY @ New Delhi

THE Central Water Commission (CWC) has commissioned an internal study to forecast four weeks' advance floods in strategically important areas of the country, utilising Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning (AI-ML) in the monsoon season, this newspaper has learnt.

The study is designed to identify flood hotspots in advance, facilitating better preparedness and mitigation efforts.

Till now, CWC mostly depended on IMD's forecast, which is not effective in long-range forecasting. The internal study, referred to as Extended Range Prediction (ERP), will be used for internal purposes, such as enhancing defence readiness and disaster mitigation in vulnerable regions like the Himalayan area. The ERP will operate for 4 weeks to precisely analyse and predict flood or glacial lake outbreak forecasts.

So far, the AI-ML model has been tested at 94 stations within the Ganga, Brahmaputra, and Godavari river basins in 2025. Results indicate that 31 stations (23 in the Ganga basin, 9 in the Brahmaputra basin, and 1 in the Godavari basin) achieved an accuracy rate greater than 75% across all four weeks.

The study is expected to predict areas that may be affected by flash floods. Last year, the CWC model was applied to the transboundary Jaldhaka River basin from October 1-5, employing the Rainfall Runoff Inundation Model to forecast flash floods.

The study will utilise flash flood data from the India Meteorological Department (IMD) to identify regions likely to experience sudden flooding.

Modi is best representative of Sangh, says Hosabale in US

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

PM Narendra Modi and RSS general secretary Dattatreya Hosabale | FILE IMAGE

IN a rare first remarks, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) praised PM Narendra Modi by describing him as the "best representative" of the Sangh, who has been spreading the message of the organisation in his own unique way.

RSS general secretary Dattatreya Hosabale, who has been on a tour to the UK and the US to reach out to intellectuals and academics, on Saturday, said, "He (PM Modi) is doing these things in his own unique ways, all of them. He may not express the same words. For example, he said, 'Ek Ped Maa ke Naam'. We have said, 'plant a tree'." Hosabale was addressing a conference in Washington.

Reportedly, for the past few days, Hosabale has been attending conferences in the US at the Stanford University in San Francisco and Hudson Institute in Washington and meeting a cross-section of the Indian diaspora.

The RSS leader said, "The organisation has laid down five focus areas for the next 25 years that include working for social harmony and cohesion, creating self-awareness and shedding the colonial mindset, instilling civic sense, strengthening family values and pursuing sustainable development models."

He noted that many government programmes reflected the values espoused by RSS, including 'Atamnirbhar Bharat' initiative and the Five Resolves (Panch Pran) spelt out by the PM in his Independence Day address in 2022. "So, being a Swayamsevak, these things are natural to the Prime Minister," Hosabale said.

"All these years, the RSS has been working silently with the belief that our work is the message. Now, we thought that it is better to reach out. Our words should also become the message," he told a news agency.

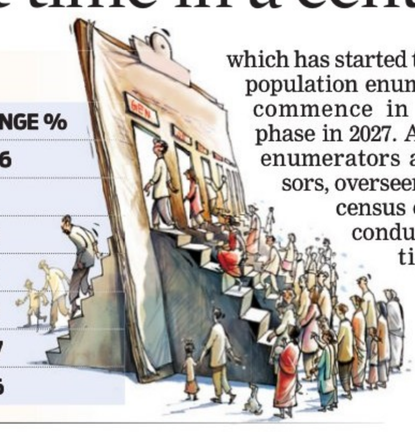
The RSS general secretary said that there have been misconceptions about the organisation, especially in Western countries, which view the Sangh as a "Hindu organisation", which is "not true".

In its centenary year, a key task before the RSS is to address the misconceptions about India and Hindu culture and set a clear narrative of what it stands for, the leader said, adding: "The narrative about India and Hindu culture has been distorted for decades within India and outside. Such narratives have to be corrected."

India to count castes for first time in a century

VISMAY BASU @ New Delhi

CENSUS JUMPS	2011	2027	CHANGE %
Estimated cost (₹)	2,200	11,718	432.6
States covered	35	36	—
Districts	640	784	22.5
Sub-districts	5,990	7,092	18.4
Statutory towns	4,041	5,128	26.9
Census towns	3,892	4,580	17.67
Villages	6,40,932	6,39,902	-0.16



INDIA is going to count its citizens' castes for the first time since 1931, as the Census 2027 begins with the first phase this year. It will fill a 96-year gap in the official caste data that has shaped policies on welfare, reservations, and political representation through guesswork and contested surveys so far.

The Union Cabinet approved caste enumeration as part of Census 2027 in 2025. The exercise will be India's first fully digital census, using mobile applications, geo-referenced mapping, and self-enumeration portals. Data collectors will use apps instead of paper. A Census Management and Monitoring System will allow real-time tracking of progress across the country's 784 districts.

The last full population census was conducted in 2011. It deployed 27 lakh enumerators with paper schedules. The 2021 census was postponed—first by the COVID-19 pandemic and then by administrative delays—making Census 2027 the 16th census in India's history and the first after a 16-year gap.

The proposed cost for the 2027 edition reflects the scale of the delay. The government estimates Census 2027 to cost ₹11,718 crore. The planned 2021 census carried an approved budget of ₹8,754 crore. The Socio-Economic and Caste Census of 2011, conducted separately from the official census, cost ₹4,893.6 crore. However, its caste data was never released.

Caste data, absent from official censuses since independence, returns now in a politically charged moment. Only Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were enumerated in the census exercises conducted after 1947. Other Backward Classes, whose reservation claims have rested on the 1931 census and the Mandal Commission estimates, have no recent government-verified count.

The upcoming census process, according to the government communique, will proceed in two phases: house listing which has started this year, and population enumeration will commence in the second phase in 2027. About 31 lakh enumerators and supervisors, overseen by one lakh census officials, will conduct the operation. Citizens can also self-report through an online portal.

The political implication of this massive exercise extends beyond the caste column. Census 2027 will generate the first updated population dataset since 2011—data that will feed into delimitation, the constitutionally mandated redrawing of parliamentary and assembly constituencies. Delimitation has been frozen since the 1970s to prevent southern states, which controlled population growth earlier, from losing seats to faster-growing northern states. The freeze formally lifts after 2026.

'Being a judge is lifelong responsibility, one never truly retires from the role'

RAJESH ASNANI @ Jaipur

AT a time when the independence and impartiality of the judiciary are under intense scrutiny, CJI Surya Kant observed that being a judge is a lifelong responsibility and that one never truly retires from the role.

At a conference, 'The Bench Beyond Retirement', organised by the Rajasthan State Legal Services Authority in Jaipur, the CJI said that former judges are like ancient stepwells—repositories of wisdom and experience that society can draw upon in times of difficulty.

He stressed that whenever the justice system faces a crisis or complex disputes, it should turn to these experienced individuals. "A wise judiciary does not merely respect such experience from afar but preserves and draws strength from it when the time comes," the CJI said.

The CJI also recited lines from a couplet by Dushyant Kumar: 'He is not a man but a complete statement.' Reflecting on the lines, he told judges and judicial officers present at the conference, "These words have always resonated with me from the perspective of the judiciary. If you internalise them, public trust will not only remain intact but will grow stronger."

The conference was attended by several former judges of various high courts and the Supreme Court. CM Bhajan Lal Sharma and Deputy CM Diya Kumari were also present.

Speaking at the event, the Chief Minister said, "This generation of retired judges has witnessed significant changes in the country. The judiciary is the guardian of the Constitution and the law, ensuring equal rights for every citizen. For those seeking justice, a judge represents hope. Judicial pronouncements lay the foundation of society, and the direction given by the judiciary is recognised and respected."

CM's 'slip of tongue' goes viral on social media

The event witnessed a brief moment of embarrassment, when Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma had a slip of tongue. While referring to the CJI, he mistakenly said, "The Chief Justice of the Government of India." A video clip of the remark has gone viral on social media platforms.

CYBER SCAM
Cyber fraudsters are exploiting the wedding season by targeting people through fake digital wedding cards on WhatsApp, Rajasthan police say. The cybercrime branch has issued an advisory.

1 WOMAN DEAD IN TREE COLLAPSE IN MAHA'S MOGARA

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	44	28	Mumbai	33	29
Bhopal	41	30	Panaji	34	28
Jaipur	42	31	Patna	37	24
Amritsar	39	24	Lucknow	42	27
Chennai	34	28	Port Blair	32	27
Kolkata	35	28	Imphal	26	19
Srinagar	24	12	Chandigarh	39	25

EC removes officials for failing to stay neutral during poll duty ● LoP says govt scared of Cong, not Mamata ● Assures citizenship after May 5

IPS officer among 5 senior cops suspended in Bengal

SUBHENDU MAITI @ Kolkata

THE Election Commission (EC) has suspended five police officials, including an IPS officer, in South 24 Parganas district on charges of "serious misconduct" and failure to maintain impartiality during poll duty, an action taken four days ahead of the second phase of polls for 142 West Bengal assembly constituencies.

The EC's decision on Friday night to suspend an IPS officer is first of its kind in the state. The suspended five police officials are Diamond Harbour additional superintendent of police (ASP) Sandip Garai, SDPO Sajal Mondal, inspector-in-charge (IC) Mausam Chakraborty, Falta police station IC Ajay Bag, and Usthi police station officer-in-charge (OC) Subhechchha Bag. The poll body also warned Diamond Harbour SP Ishnani Pal for "failure to ensure discipline among her subordinate officers in sensitive matters like election."

EC Secretary Sujeet Kumar Mishra wrote to West Bengal Chief Secretary Dushyant Nariala, stating, "After considering the facts and circumstances of the matter, the Commission directs that these following officers ay be suspended forthwith and disciplinary proceedings be initiated for their serious misconduct and failure to maintain neutrality during West Bengal assembly elections." The EC asked the Chief Secretary to implement the directive with immediate effect and sought a compliance report in this regard.

EC sources said that the poll panel had earlier repeatedly cautioned the suspended police officials over their alleged partisan role during election duties in the Diamond Harbour Lok Sabha constituency areas. TMC national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee is the party MP from Diamond Harbour.

The sources said the poll panel also directed the state government to send a report on IPS officer Garai to his cadre controlling authority in the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

Earlier on Thursday night, the EC suspended Sandip Sarkar, Hingalgaj police station in North 24 Parganas, on the charges of partisan role during election duty. The ruling TMC leadership, including its supremo Mamata Banerjee, has been accusing the EC of arbitrarily transferring bureaucrats, including IAS and IPS officers, keeping the state government in the dark.

The Chief Minister has already written several letters to Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar, protesting against sudden transfers of government officers which she said disrupted administrative activities. In her letters, CM Banerjee has said that while the poll body has the authority to transfer officers during the election period, its actions are "arbitrary and unprecedented". She also wrote that the "large-scale transfer of senior officials, without consultation, reason or any allegation of misconduct, seriously disrupts administration and raises questions about institutional neutrality."

Transfer of officers in poll period arbitrary: CM

In her letters, CM Banerjee has said that while the poll body has the authority to transfer officers during the election period, its actions are "arbitrary and unprecedented". The TMC had moved the Calcutta HC against the EC after it removed OCs of 170 police stations.

POLL WALL

Rahul slams TMC, BJP, says women not safe in Didi raj

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kolkata

CONGRESS leader Rahul Gandhi on Saturday accused the TMC government led by Mamata Banerjee of not putting up a fight against the BJP. "Mamata Banerjee is opening the road for the BJP in West Bengal," he said at a poll rally, arguing that had she worked for the people's interests, the BJP would not have been able to make inroads in the state.

Addressing a meeting in Hooghly, the Congress leader hit out at the TMC government over women's safety. "Atrocities against women have risen under the Trinamool rule," he said, pointing out the rape and murder of an on-duty doctor at the state-run RG Kar Medical College and Hospital in 2024.

Gandhi claimed that the TMC can't defeat the BJP, saying PM Narendra Modi knows that the Congress is a risk for him. "When election comes, Modi ji mocks Mamata ji, but he remains silent after elections are over. The reason: He knows only one force counters BJP and RSS. That force is Congress," he said. "How many cases Modi ji has filed against Mamata ji? How many hours she has faced interrogations? But I was interrogated by ED for 55 hours in five days in row... Why no attacks are made against Mamata ji? Because, she never fights against the BJP."

Shah reaches out to Matuas, says no need to live in fear

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kolkata

UNION Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday sharpened the BJP's campaign around three of its core Bengal planks—the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) for the Matua community, women's safety, and alleged infiltration from Bangladesh—while projecting the election as a battle to end Mamata Banerjee's rule.

While addressing poll rallies in Bardhaman's Jamalpur and Howrah's Shyampur just days ahead of the Assembly polls in the state, Shah accused Mamata of spreading fear among Matuas by falsely claiming that they would lose their voting rights if the BJP came to power in Bengal. "But the Matua community is our life, and no one can touch them. Our Matua and Namasudra brothers and sisters will get citizenship after May 5. You vote our BJP into power, and we will grant you citizenship," he assured.

Polling was held in 152 of the 294 Assembly constituencies on April 23, recording a record turnout of nearly 93%. The second phase of polling for the remaining 142 seats will be held on April 29. The results of the state elections will be announced on May 4. The second phase will cover districts like Kolkata, Howrah, Hooghly, South 24 Parganas, Bardhaman and the Matua-dominated North 24 Parganas.

Will uproot BJP from Centre, says Abhishek

TMC national leader Abhishek Banerjee on Saturday asserted that his party will return to power in West Bengal by winning 225-odd seats in the 294-member assembly, while the BJP will not be able to bag even a total of 50 constituencies. Addressing a rally in Bally, Banerjee, who is considered No. 2 in the TMC hierarchy, also vowed to uproot the BJP from the Centre.

90% rise in minister's income over five yrs

Bengal minister and TMC leader Sujit Bose has declared in his poll affidavit that his annual income rose over 90% over the last five years. The value of his total movable assets now stands at ₹1.92 crore, while it was ₹1.41 crore in 2021, according to the affidavits. Bose, who has described his profession as business, has reported an annual income of ₹1,02,28,726 for 2024-25.

No repolling sought 1st phase of polls: EC

The EC has said that no repoll has been recommended in any of the 44,376 polling stations in West Bengal where voting was held during the first phase on April 23, indicating a largely peaceful conduct of the exercise. According to a senior Election Commission official, the polling process was completed without any major disruption that would warrant fresh voting at any booth.

PDS scam: ED raids in Kolkata, Burdwan

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Saturday raided several locations in poll-bound West Bengal as part of its money laundering investigation into an alleged PDS scam, officials said Searches were underway at about nine premises of suppliers and exporters in Kolkata, Burdwan, and Habra, including Niranjan Chandra Saha's. The action is being carried out under the PMLA.

Bhabanipur: New OCs in two police stations

Kolkata Police on Saturday appointed new officers-in-charge (OCs) for Kalighat and Alipore police stations, both located in the high-profile Bhabanipur Assembly constituency, where Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee is contesting against Leader of the Opposition Suvendu Adhikari of the BJP. The transfers were made in compliance with directives of CEO.

Indian drug lord linked to D-network arrested in Turkiye with fake 'identity'

SUMIT KUMAR SINGH @ New Delhi

TURKISH authorities have arrested one of India's most-wanted drug traffickers, Salim Ismail Dola, in Istanbul on Friday in a joint operation by the National Intelligence Organisation and Istanbul police, sources said.

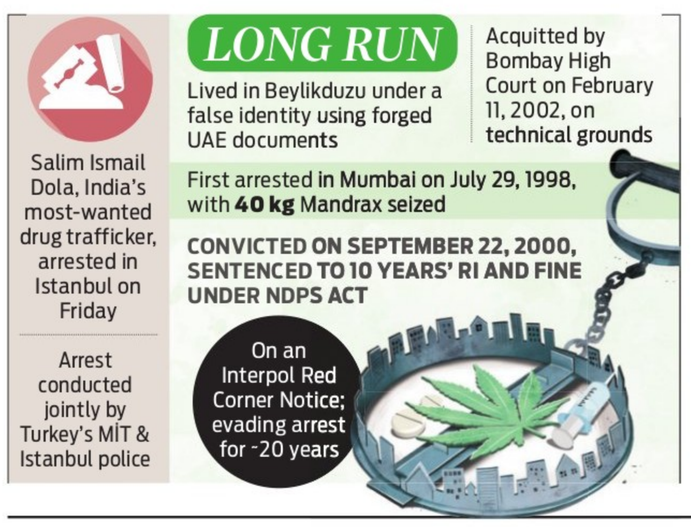
His arrest is seen as a major blow to a multi-state synthetic drug network linked to India's underworld fugitive Dawood Ibrahim. The development came on the heels of the recently concluded 12th round of India-Turkiye Foreign Office Consultations (FoC), which were held on 8 April in New Delhi.

However, it will not be easy for Indian authorities to bring the accused back as the two countries do not have an extradition agreement. Top sources said the accused may be deported to a neighbouring country where he has criminal cases registered.

Sources added that authorities are examining whether Dola and his network have any criminal records in Armenia or Azerbaijan so that he can be deported to either of those countries.

Also known as Salim Dola and Taher Salim Dola, he lived in Istanbul's Beylikdüzü district under a false identity, using forged UAE documents. Dola, who was on an Interpol Red Corner Notice, had been evading arrest for two decades. India's R&AW had made several attempts to dismantle his drug empire, which he operated across India with links to Dawood Ibrahim's crime network. Dola was first arrested on July 29, 1998, at Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport, where around 40 kg of Mandrax, were recovered from two suitcases.

He was subsequently tried before a special court under the NDPS Act. On September 22, 2000, the court convicted him and his co-accused, sentencing him to 10 years of RI along with a monetary fine. Dola challenged the verdict before the Bombay HC in Criminal Appeal No. 829 of 2000. On February 11, 2002, the court overturned the trial court's judgment and acquitted him and the other accused on technical grounds.


LONG RUN
Lived in Beylikduzu under a false identity using forged UAE documents
Acquitted by Bombay High Court on February 11, 2002, on technical grounds
First arrested in Mumbai on July 29, 1998, with 40 kg Mandrax seized
CONVICTED ON SEPTEMBER 22, 2000, SENTENCED TO 10 YEARS' RI AND FINE UNDER NDPS ACT
On an Interpol Red Corner Notice; evading arrest for ~20 years
Salim Ismail Dola, India's most-wanted drug trafficker, arrested in Istanbul on Friday
Arrest conducted jointly by Turkey's MIT & Istanbul police

Protesters clash with police in Manipur

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @ Guwahati

THOUSANDS of people demanding peace in strife-torn Manipur on Saturday clashed with police personnel as they were prevented from marching towards Chief Minister Yumnam Khemchand Singh's residence in the Babupara area of Imphal on Saturday.

However, a group of agitators were later allowed to meet the CM to submit a memorandum to him on the matter. The organisation asked the state government if it would ask the Centre to end the ongoing "proxy war" and ensure justice in recent incidents of violence.

They also sought a judicial probe into the killing of three agitators in Bishnupur in a firing by the personnel of a Central force.

The protesters, under the aegis of the Meitei body COCOMI (Coordinating Committee on Manipur Integrity), took out four different rallies, which were stopped at different locations by security personnel.

Tensions flared in the Khurai Lamlong area of the Imphal East district, located about 2 km from the Chief Minister's bungalow, when the personnel dispersed the protesters by firing tear gas shells after they attempted to break through barricades. According to local media reports, at least 22 people were injured and hospitalised.

Meanwhile, two persons were injured when a Casspir vehicle of a paramilitary force rammed

its way through barricades put up by locals at Talui village in the Naga-majority Ukhrul district. The working committee of the Tangkhul Naga Long, in a statement, said the condition of one of them was critical.

Despite the resistance, the protesters on Saturday managed to hold a rally near Kangla, where the leaders of the COCOMI addressed people.

The flashpoint comes after the COCOMI—a grouping of Meitei civil society organisations—announced the boycott of the BJP government in the state and set April 25 as the deadline for the government to arrest all involved in a recent bomb attack in the Bishnupur district. The agitators raised slogans and held placards demanding justice for the two children who were killed in the Bishnupur explosion. They also called for the rehabilitation of internally displaced persons affected by the ethnic conflict.

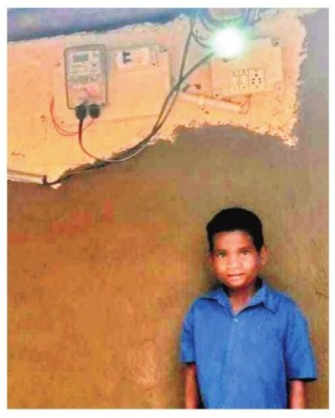
Over 260 people have been killed and thousands rendered homeless in ethnic violence in Manipur since May 3, 2023.

Decades of darkness ends: Village in C'garh gets electricity for first time

EJAZ KAISER @ Raipur

ONCE just a name on the map, Irpanar village has now become a symbol of new hope. Nestled amid the dense forests, high hills, and remote terrain of Abujhmad in Narayanpur, the village has received electricity for the first time.

Located around 30 km from the Narayanpur district headquarters, Irpanar is far from easily accessible owing to tough geographical conditions. The local community and the state power company manually hauled poles and materials through "kutcha" (unpaved) roads, steep climbs and dense forests, showing the effort it took to bridge the final mile of development. "The electrification process accomplished at Irpanar was not a routine technical task. Transporting poles, wires, and materials required intense effort. Despite rugged



A child of a household that has got power connection | EXPRESS

terrain and limited resources, the team completed line expansion, pole installation, and connections within the stipulated time, setting a strong example," said Namrata Jain, Narayanpur collector.

The electrification of Irpanar village was completed at a cost of ₹56.11 lakh. Under this project, households received electricity connections for the first time—reflecting the administrative commitment to ensuring that even the remotest household and beneficiary have equal access to development.

Electricity is a 'force multiplier' and doesn't just provide light; it changes the economic and social trajectory of a community. With electricity now available, children can study at night under proper lighting. Basic facilities like using fans, lights, and small household appliances will make daily life easier. For a village that lived by the rhythm of the sun and firewood for generations, the flip of a switch is more than a technical success.

The achievement at Irpanar sets a precedent for the remaining unconnected hamlets in Narayanpur district.

Minor girl going to school gangraped in Alwar dist

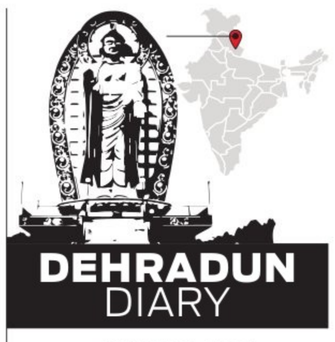
RAJESH ASNANI @ Jaipur

A 15-year-old minor girl was gangraped by three men at a village in Rajasthan's Alwar district on Thursday. Two youths allegedly abducted the Class XI student while she was walking to school on Thursday, and the crime happened at an unidentified location under the jurisdiction of the Raini Police Station.

According to a complaint filed by the victim's brother, while the girl was walking to her school, a Bolero pulled up on the road, and the two occupants of the vehicle dragged the minor into the vehicle. Later, they tied her hands, blindfolded her and picked up a third youth along the way. They then took the victim to an undisclosed location and gangraped her. They also took objectionable pictures and videos of her and threatened to kill her brother if she shared about the incident with anyone.

While the accused were forcing the girl into a vehicle, other students from the school spread the news of the abduction throughout the village, which prompted angry villagers to gather en masse.

After committing the crime, the accused attempted to drop the victim off and flee. But upon spotting the approaching crowd, they abandoned the vehicle and escaped on foot. The enraged mob then set their vehicle on fire. Upon receiving the information, the Raini police arrived at the scene. They took custody of the burnt vehicle and transported it to the police station. A case has been registered against the three culprits. The prime accused, Rahul-Saini, has been arrested.



DEHRADUN DIARY

NARENDRA SETHI
Our correspondent in Uttarakhand
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Sweet success at CM Dhami's residence

While the Congress attacks his administration, Uttarakhand CM Pushkar Singh Dhami is busy proving that his own backyard is bustling with productivity—literally. In a sweet turn of events, the CM's official residence recorded a bumper honey harvest of 520 kg in just 45 days. Inspecting the extraction on Saturday, Dhami identified the massive potential for apiculture in the state's forest and hilly terrains. Taking the buzz forward, the CM has called for a dedicated policy on installing beehives in forest areas to boost rural employment. Dhami plans to sweeten the deal further by prioritising beekeeping under the 'Mukhyamantri Swarojgar Yojana.'

Self-enumeration in tech-driven Census

Dehradun is setting a benchmark for the upcoming Census 2027. Eva Ashish Srivastava, Director of Census Operations, announced that over 62,000 citizens in the state have already completed self-enumeration digitally, with Dehradun leading the state. To ensure precision, 20,859 enumerators and 3,670 supervisors have been rigorously trained on the HLO mobile app. Leveraging Digital India initiatives, the state has been mapped into 29,567 digital blocks via the HLBC portal. Beginning April 25, the "Har Dwar, Dastak" campaign will launch, where field staff will use mobile-based systems to collect data across 33 parametres per household until May 24.

Contempt plea against home secretary

A fresh legal standoff has erupted between the Uttarakhand government and two senior IPS officers, Arun Mohan Joshi and Neeru Garg. The duo, currently holding IG rank, moved the Central Administrative Tribunal after the state home department allegedly ignored a stay order on their central deputation. Following the Centre's March 5 directive to transfer Joshi to the BSF and Garg to the ITBP, the state relieved them. However, challenging the move, the officers approached the CAT, which granted them interim relief on April 7, staying the deputation for four weeks. Joshi has filed a contempt petition against Home Secretary Shailesh Bagouli.

HUNTING FOR EXPLOSIVE MINES IN THE HORMUZ, SAYS U.S.

Experts say sweeping for underwater explosives could take months

WASHINGTON

A child sits on the shoulders of a man as she waves a Hezbollah party flag during a solidarity rally against the United States and Israel, in Beirut's southern suburbs | AFP

US president Donald Trump says the US Navy is clearing Iranian mines from the Strait of Hormuz, a vital sea route for oil shipments whose disruption is increasingly threatening the global economy. Sweeping for underwater explosives could take months despite a tenuous ceasefire between the United States and Iran in the weekslong war, experts say. Any future claims that the US cleared the waterway where 20% of the world's oil typically passes might fail to convince commercial freighters and their insurers that it is finally safe.

"You don't even have to have laying mines — you just have to make people believe that you've laid mines," said Emma Salisbury, a scholar at the Foreign Policy Research Institute's National Security Program.

"And even if the US sweeps the strait and says everything's clear, all the Iranians have to do is say, 'Well, actually, you haven't found them all yet,'" said Salisbury, who is also a fellow at the Royal Navy Strategic Studies Centre. "There's only so much the US can do to give that confidence back to commercial shipping."

WAR WATCH

Seeking out mines is one of the latest tactics announced by the Trump administration to get traffic moving again through the strait as rising energy prices and wider economic effects pose a political risk.

The US also has blockaded Iran's ports, seized ships tied to Tehran and planned to take part in a second round of ceasefire talks in Pakistan this weekend.

Pentagon officials told lawmakers it would likely take six months to clear the mines that Iran has set in the strait, according a person familiar with the situation who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss the sensitive information. The information was delivered during a classified briefing at the House Armed Services Committee on Tuesday.

When asked about the estimate, Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth told reporters Friday that the military would not speculate on a timeline, but he did not deny it. "Allegedly that was something that was said," Hegseth said at a Pentagon news conference. AP

US imposes sanctions on China refinery, 40 vessels over Iranian oil

WASHINGTON

DONALD Trump's administration is placing economic sanctions on a major China-based oil refinery and roughly 40 shipping companies and tankers involved in transporting Iranian oil.

The move, announced on Friday and first reported by The Associated Press, makes good on Trump's threat to impose secondary sanctions on companies and countries that do business with Iran. It's also part of his Republican administration's overall ramped-up campaign to cut off Iran's key source of revenue — its oil exports.

Concurrently, the US this month imposed a physical blockade on the Strait of Hormuz, the Persian Gulf waterway that is crucial to global energy supplies. The sanctions, which cut off the companies from the US financial system and penalise anyone who does business with them, come just a few weeks before President Donald Trump and China's Xi Jinping are due to meet in China. Included in Friday's sanctions is Hengli Petrochemical's facility in the port city of Dalian, which has a processing capacity of roughly 400,000 barrels of crude oil per day, making it one of the biggest independent refineries in China.

The Treasury Department says Hengli has received Iranian crude oil shipments since 2023 and has generated hundreds of millions of dollars in revenue for the Iranian military. The advocacy group United Against Nuclear Iran said in February 2025 that Hengli is one of dozens of Chinese purchasers of Iranian oil.

China is the biggest buyer of Iranian oil, importing 80% to 90% of Iranian oil before the US-Israeli war with Iran broke out, though the crude — transported by a shadow fleet of vessels — often has its origin obscured but arrives in China as oil from countries such as Malaysia. Smaller refineries, known as teapot refineries, typically are the buyers of Iranian oil. Iran has previously said that its demands for ending the war include the lifting of sanctions.

Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said Friday that his agency "will continue to constrict the network of vessels, intermediaries and buyers Iran relies on to move its oil to global markets." AP

EU exploring alternative energy routes

NICOSIA: A painful fuel crunch and soaring oil and gas prices triggered by the Iran war have nudged the European Union to look hard into funding alternative energy routes in the West Asia to circumvent hot spots like the Strait of Hormuz. European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said Friday that the EU is ready to work with Persian Gulf countries for new projects conveying energy to global markets that wouldn't be held hostage to war or geopolitical strife. "The events of the past month have taught us a hard lesson," von der Leyen told a news conference at the end of an informal meeting of EU leaders in the capital of Cyprus. "Our security is not just related, it is intrinsically linked. A threat to a merchant vessel in the Strait of Hormuz is a threat to a factory, for example, in Belgium."

PUBLIC NOTICE

The undersigned advocate on behalf of my clients **1). Smt. Rathnamma, W/o Late Chowdappa @ Chikkanna, 2). Smt. Lakshmamma D/o Late Muniyappa, 3). Sri. Ramakrishnappa M S/o Late Muniyappa 4). Sri. Chandrappa S/o. Late Muniyappa, 5) Sri. Nanjegowda S/o Late Muniyappa, 6) Sri. Shivanna S/o Late Muniyappa, 7) Sri. Rampappa S/o Late Muniyappa,** all are R/at, Gopasandra Village, Channarayapattana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangaluru Rural Dist., we have filed petition for death certificate of 1st petitioner father in law and respondent no. 2 to 6 are sons and daughter of **Muniyappa S/o Late Chowdappa, his died on 1-1-1981** at Gopasandra Village, Channarayapattana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangaluru Rural Dist, If any dispute, objection, regarding the same can appear before the Additional Civil Judge and J.M.F.C. at, Devanahalli and date of hearing **on 10/6/26 at, 11 A.M. in C. Mis. No. 625/2025.**

By Order of the Court, Sd/- Chief Ministerial Officer
Addl. Civil Judge & JMFC Court, Devanahalli
K. Manjunatha & Sandesha, Advocate

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that my client is intent to purchase the Property bearing Site No.509/4, Katha No.277/1, Comprised in Converted Sy No.83/2, Situated at Doddagubbi Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore, Measuring East to West 80 feet and North to South 50 feet, in all measuring 4000 Sq.feet and Bounded on

East by : Site No.536/4
West by : Road
North by : Site No.509/5
South by : Site No.509/3

from it's present Owner **Mrs. BRUNDA DEEPAK** W/o Mr.D.Deepak

Persons having any right over the said property may lodge their objections/claims with documentary evidence within **8 days** from this day to the undersigned. In the absence of any claims within the above said period. it shall be deemed that there are no such claims or that if there are any claims and they have not been made, it shall be deemed to have been waived.

SRI VINAYAKA ASSOCIATES,
Advocates
No.999/8, Second Floor, 5th Cross,
ORR, Horamavu, Bangalore-560 043.
Mob: 9591720993.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that our client's father Late. **M Gururaj Rao** S/o late Sheshagiri Rao has purchased the property bearing No. 46 (old No 15), 33rd Cross, 11th Main, Jayanagar, 4th T Block, Bangalore-560011 which is more fully described in the Schedule written hereunder and hereinafter referred to as the "SCHEDULE PROPERTY", from the erstwhile Mysore Housing Board, under a registered Sale deed dated 29/12/1969. Subsequently our client got the property by way of registered Partition Deed dated 02/06/1989 vide document bearing No. 642/1989-90 with Book No. I before the office of the Sub-registrar, Jayanagar, Bangalore.

Our clients Magalam Suresh Babu and Satish Babu M state that they have lost and/or otherwise irretrievably misplaced the original Sale Deed dated 29/12/1969 (registered as document No.2603 in Book I, Volume 86, at Pages 175-177, before the Sub-registrar, Jayanagar, Bangalore) executed by Mysore Housing Board Represented by its Chairman H. L Thimmegowda in favour of Sri. M Gururaj Rao S/o late Sheshagiri Rao in respect of the Schedule Property. our client further states that they have not deposited or other kept the said document in any third party's custody.

Any person or persons who have found the above mentioned document or is in possession of the same presently, may kindly get in touch with the undersigned at the address hereinbelow mentioned for the purpose of returning the said document within 7 days from the date of this notice.

SCHEDULE

All that part and parcel of the immovable property bearing No. 46 (old No 15), 33rd Cross, 11th Main, Jayanagar, 4th T Block, Bangalore-560041, measuring to an East to West 40 feet and North to South 52.5 feet totally measuring to extent of 2,100 feet, with building consisting of ground and first floor and bounded on the:

East by :- Property No.14,
West by :- Property No. 16,
North by:- Road,
South by:- Property No. 18
25/04/2026 Bangalore

Chiranjeevi K R, Advocate
303 E block, Survey No.19/5, near RNSIT college, Channasandra, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560098. Mob: +918880955666.

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ROBERT H SCHULLER

IDFC FIRST Bank Limited

IDFC FIRST Bank

(erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited) | CIN : L65110TN2014PLC097792
Registered Office: - KRM Towers, 8th Floor, Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai- 600031.
Tel : +91 44 4564 4000 | Fax: +91 44 4564 4022

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13 (2) OF THE SECURITIZATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002

The following borrowers and co-borrowers availed the below mentioned secured loans from **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited)** The loans of the below-mentioned borrowers and co- borrowers have been secured by the mortgage of their respective properties. As they have failed to adhere to the terms and conditions of the respective loan agreements and had become irregular, their loan were classified as NPA as per the RBI guidelines. Amounts due by them to **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited)** are mentioned as per respective notices issued more particularly described in the following table and further interest on the said amounts shall also be applicable and the same will be charged as per contractual rate with effect from their respective dates.

Sr No.	Loan Account No.	Type of Loan	Name of borrowers and co-borrowers	Section 13 (2) Notice Date	Outstanding amount as per Section 13 (2) Notice
1	126638523	Home Loan	1. Harshitha P	11.02.2026	INR 19,52,141.07/-
Property Address : All That Piece And Parcel Of Residential Apartment Bearing Flat No. 207, Old BBMP 1235, New Katha No. 1236, On The First Floor, In Block-i, Having Super Built Up Area Measuring An Extent Of 655 Square Feet, With Mosaic Flooring And Steel Windows, Including One Covered Car Parking Space In Basement No.207 And Property Which Undivided Share Works Out To 290.82 Square Feet (27.06 Square Meters), Apartment Known As "Janapriya Nivas", Constructed On Immovable Property Bearing Katha No. 63, Formed In Survey No. 55, Situated At Chikkasandra Village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Presently Comes Under The Limits Of Bruhath Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, Ward No.12, Bangalore, Karnataka-560090, And The Said Flat Bounded As: **East : Open Sky, West : Passage To Staircases, North : Flat No. 206 South : Open Sky.**					
2	103934378	Loan Against Property	1. Santhosh Kumar B 2. G D Basappa	08.04.2026	INR 33,28,525.55/-
Property Address : All That Piece And Parcel Of Apartment/flat Bearing No.12, Constructed In The First Floor, Containing Two Bedrooms In Block-5c, Measuring 850 Square Feet Of (super Built Up Area) And With The Right To Use Ace Of One Open Car Parking Space And 3.14% Undivided Right, Equivalent To 271.15 Square Feet, Title And Interest In The "Sarang, Nandi Gardens", Constructed On Land Bearing Sy.No. 12(A), Sy.No. 12 (B), Sy. No. 23, Sy.No. 24, Sy.No. 25/1, Sy.no. 25/2, Situated At Alahalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560062, And Bounded As: **East By : Sy. No. 35 And Boundary Of Raghuvanahalli Village, West By : Road To Anajanpura & Sy. No. 20, North By : Sy. Nos. 20, 21, 13 & 11, South : Tank And Sy Nos. 27 & 26**					
3	23345275	Loan Against Property	1. Vinay N R 2. Archana B C 3. Rangaswamy N C	08.04.2026	INR 9,23,825.59/-
Property Address : All That Piece And Parcel Of Residential Site Bearing No. 75, Sector "B", Category: Mig Developed By The Karnataka Housing Board, Under Suvarna Karnataka Scheme And 225 Scheme Situated At Suryanagara Phase-ii, Comprising Of Lands Acquired By The Karnataka Housing Board In Various Survey Numbers Of Hinnakki Village, Jigani Hobali Of Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, Karnataka-562106, Measuring East To West: 9.00 Meters And North To South: 15.00 Meters In All Measuring 135.00 Sq. Meters, And Bounded As:- **East : Site No. 74 Mig, West : Site No. 76 Mig, North : 9 Mtrs. Wide Road, South : Site No 98 Lig**					

You are hereby called upon to pay the amounts to **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited)** as per the details shown in the above table with contracted rate of interest thereupon from their respective dates and other costs, charges etc., within 60 days from the date of this publication, failing which the undersigned shall be constrained to initiate proceedings, under Section 13 (4) and section 14 of the SARFAESI Act, against the mortgaged properties mentioned hereinabove to realize the amount due to **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited)**. Further you are prohibited under Section 13 (13) of the said Act from transferring the said secured assets either by way of sale/lease or otherwise.

Sd/-
Authorized Officer
IDFC First Bank Limited
(erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited)

Date : 26.04.2026
Place : Bangalore, Karnataka

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that **Smt. Manjula. K** W/o K. Varadaraj, R/a, No. 357, 11th Block, BSK 6th Stage, Srinivasapura, Bengluru South Kengeri, Bengaluru-560 060. has lost the original Registered Gift Deed registered on 05.04.2004 and, bearing Document No.KEN-1-00345-2004-05, Book-I, CD No.KEND46, registered in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Kengeri.

In view of the loss of the original document, this public notice is issued to notify all concerned parties that the original Gift Deed is no longer in the possession of Smt. Manjula K W/o K. Varadaraj Any person claiming rights or interests based on the said document is hereby requested to contact the undersigned within **07 days** from the date of publication of this notice.

After the expiry of the notice period, appropriate steps will be taken to obtain a certified copy of the Gift Deed from the concerned Sub-Registrar's Office, and no liability will be accepted for any claims arising thereafter.

For any further information or clarification, please contact:

Sd/- MR. AMOGH MASUR, Advocate
No.766, 2nd Floor, SGR Arcade, BEML Layout, 5th Stage, Rajarajeshwarinagar, Bangalore- 560098.
Office No +91 73495 15775.
Email: office@masur.in. Date: 25/04/2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to state that **Mrs. LAKSHMAMMA** is the sole and absolute owner of the property bearing **Site No. 1867, BDA Katha PID No. 3320040961 measuring East to West 9.00 Meters and North to South 6.00 Meters in all totally measuring 54.00 Square Meters situated at 4th Block, Banashankari 6th Stage Layout formed by Bangalore Development Authority, Bangalore.** Thereafter she has changed her name to **Mrs. LAKSHMI** and the same is entered in all her bank accounts.

I hereby state that both the aforesaid names of my client **Mrs. LAKSHMAMMA & Mrs. LAKSHMI** are one and the same and belongs to her only and the same has declared through Affidavit sworn to before the Notary S.R. Thulasikrishna, Bangalore.

M. Vasanth Kumar, Advocate
No. 25, "Skandashree Nilaya",
3rd Cross, Mookambika Layout,
Mylasandra, Kengeri, Bangalore - 560 059.
Mobile : 9900250398

PUBLIC NOTICE

The public are hereby informed that my Clients **(1) Sri Ramakrishna,** S/o. Munivenkatappa, aged about 55 years, **(2) Smt. Lakshmamma** D/o. Munivenkatappa, W/o. Pillappa, aged about 75 years, **(3) Smt. Manjamma,** W/o. Ramakrishna, aged about 50 years and their legal heirs, all residents of Kundalahalli Village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, Bengaluru are the absolute owners of Sy.No.43/4, Old Sy.No.43, measuring to an extent of 33 guntas, situated at Kundalahalli Village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, Bengaluru. That my clients have revoked the fraudulent registered general power of attorney dated 04.04.2025, as per the legal notice dated 21.04.2026, further, the public at large are hereby called upon not to interact or deal with (1) Abhishek N. S/o Nagaraj, aged about 34 years, R/at: No.10, Muniswamappa Layout, Hoskerehalli, BSK 3rd Stage, Bengaluru - 560 085; (2) Shoueb A.R, S/o Syed Ajaz Hussain, aged about 36 years, R/at: No.536, 2nd Stage, Andalus School, Rajiv Nagar, Mysore, Udayagiri Post, Mysore - 570 019; and (3) Sri Vikhyath V. Shetty, C/o Vinay Shetty, aged about 30 years, R/at: No.1/408C, Vrashaba', Sudarshana Nagar, Phajeer Bantwala, Dakshina Kannada - 574 199. The illegal registered owners / fraudulent sale deed dated 09.05.2025, registered as Document No.: BNS-1-01942-2025-26, Stored in Book-1 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Banaswadi, Bengaluru.

The said property in Sy.No.43/4, Old Sy.No.43, of Kundalahalli Village, is the subject matter of litigation between my clients and (1) Abhishek N., (2) Shoueb A.R, and (3) Sri Vikhyath V. Shetty, anybody contracting to buy the above said property or entering into any sought of agreement etc., will be doing at their risk and the same will not be binding on my clients.

M. SATHISH BABU, Advocate
No.335/5, 1st Floor, S. V. Complex, 2nd Main, 13th Cross, Sampige Road, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru-560 003.
Email: sslawassociates@gmail.com
Mobile No.: 98444 77182.
Date: 25-04-2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that Our Client, **Geetha Prakash,** Aged about 68 years, w/o B.R. Prakash residing at No-1, 1st Main Road, N.R. Colony, Bangalore – 560 019, is desirous of purchasing the residential site described in the Schedule written hereunder referred to as "SCHEDULE PROPERTY", from its owners 1) Sri. Satish Babu M, aged about 68 years, S/o. M Gururaja Rao, and 2) Sri. Magalam Suresh Babu, aged about 77 years, S/o. M Gururaja Rao, both residing at No. 46 (old No 15), 33rd Cross, 11th Main, Jayanagar, 4th T Block, Bangalore-560011, who have acquired the schedule property under a partition Deed dated 02/06/1989 vide document bearing No. 642/1989-90 with Book No. I before the office of the Sub-registrar, Jayanagar Bangalore City.

Any person/s or association of persons asserting any right/s, interest, title or claim/s in respect of the Schedule Property, in any manner whatsoever or has any right/s or claim/s in respect of the Schedule Property or has any objection/s to such sale in favour of our Client, is hereby called upon to notify the undersigned in writing, within 10 days from the date of issuance of this Public Notice, alongwith documentary proof. If no such written objections/claims are received by the undersigned within the aforesaid period, I shall proceed on the basis that there are no claim/s and/or objection/s whatsoever with regard to the Schedule Property and will conclude the sale transaction.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that part and parcel of the immovable property bearing No. 46 (old No 15), 33rd Cross, 11th Main, Jayanagar, 4th T Block, Bangalore-560041, measuring to an East to West 40 feet and North to South 52.5 feet totally measuring to extent of 2,100 feet, with building consisting of ground and first floor and bounded on the: **East by :-** Property No.14,
West by :- Property No. 16,
North by:- Road,
South by:- Property No. 18,
25/04/2026 Bangalore

Chiranjeevi K R, Advocate
303 E block, Survey No.19/5, near RNSIT college, Channasandra, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560098.
Mob:+918880955666.

IN THE ARBITRATION PROCEEEDINGS BEFORE THE SOLE ARBITRATOR HON'BLE JUSTICE SMT. RATHNAKALA AT BENGALURU
A.C NO.781/2025

BETWEEN: M/s NS INFRA, A registered partnership firm, Having its office at No.4 BC 409, Sri Vari Nilaya, 4th A Main, 4th B Cross, Kasturi Nagar, BDA Layout, Ramamurthy Nagar, Opp Uttam Sagar Hotel, Bengaluru-560016. Respresented by its Managing Director, **Mr. G.A. Muniraju** S/o Late Annayappa... **CLAIMANT**

AND: Mr. V Pushpa Raj, aged about 60 years, S/o V Venugopal, R/at No.41, Ranasingh Pet, Police Road, Bengaluru-560053. **Mr. Mushtaq Ahmed M F,** aged about 56 years, S/o Sri. Fazlur Rahman, Residing at No.135, 3rd Main, Vyalikaval, Bengaluru-560 003... **RESPONDENTS**

NOTICE TO RESPONDENT NO.2 UNDER ORDER V RULE 20 OF CPC 1908

Mr. Mushtaq Ahmed M F, aged about 56 years, S/o Sri. Fazlur Rahman, Residing at No.135, 3rd Main, Vyalikaval, Bengaluru-560003.

Whereas the above-named Claimant, M/s N S INFRA, represented by its Managing Director Mr. G. A. Muniraju, has instituted the present arbitration proceedings against you, seeking recovery of the amount paid under the Agreement of Sale dated 22-07-2019, along with damages and compensation, before the Arbitration and Conciliation Centre, Bengaluru, by invoking Clause 9.1 of the said Agreement of Sale. You are hereby summoned to appear before this Hon'ble Tribunal, either in person or through a pleader, on **05-06-2026** to answer the claim, failing which the matter will be heard and disposed of ex parte.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, this 25-04-2026.

By order of the Court, Section Officer, Arbitration & Conciliation Centre-Bengaluru (High Court of Karnataka), Bengaluru.

Advocate for Claimant:
MANU P KUMAR
KUMAR & KUMAR ADVOCATES
F-113, 3rd Floor, Central Chambers, 2nd Main, Gandhinagar, Bengaluru-560009.

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Open E-Tender Notice

Chief Project Manager, Gati-Shakati unit, N.W.Railway, Jaipur for and on behalf of President of India invites open E-Tender for the following works upto 15.30 hours on the date shown as below- **Name of work with location:** GSU-ENGG-JP-2026-27-04 Dy. CE (GSU) JP Div.- Provision of Longer loop line facility at Dhigawara Station, **Approx Cost of work Rs.:** 99437174.48, **Bid Security Rs.:** 1988800/-. 1. Detail is available on N.W.Rly website-www.ireps.gov.in and Notice Board in CPM/GSU/JP Office, NWR/Jaipur, **2.** Tender No. GSU-ENGG-JP-2026-27-04 is be closed on 19.05.26 at 15.30 hrs and opened on 19.05.26 at 16.00 hrs. **603-PS/26**

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NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Open E-Tender Notice

Divl.Rly. Manager, N.W.Railway, Jaipur for and on behalf of President of India invites open E-Tender for the following works upto 15.00 hours on the date shown as below- **Name of work with location:** ENGG-JP-2026-27-27 ADEN-Line/JP Sub Division: Construction RCC Boundary wall in SWM-CKS Section to Prevent Encroachment in Railway land, **Approx Cost of work:** ₹45857535.41, **Earnest money Rs:** ₹917200.00/-. **Name of work with location:** ENGG-JP-2026-27-29, ADEN-Line/JP Sub Division:- Replacement of pipe culvert of size less than 0.9 Meter And More Than 0.9 Meter by providing RCC boxes size 1x1.20x1.20 meter Bridge No 5,16A,17,18,20,21,22,39A,44,58,65A, 65B,66A,68,70,70B,72,78,80- Total (19 Nos)in JP- SWM section, **Approx Cost of work:** ₹43322268.89, **Earnest money Rs:** ₹866500.00. **1.** Detail is available on N.W.Rly website-www.ireps.gov.in and Notice Board in WA section, DRM Office, NWR/Jaipur. **2.** Tender No. ENGG-JP-2026-27-27 & 29 are to be closed 18.05.2026 at 15.00 hrs and opened on 18.05.2026 at 16.00 hrs. **600-PS/26**

Follow us at /NWRailways NWRailways_

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that my Client Sri.Govardhana, Son of late D.N. Mariyappa, aged about 62 years Residing at: No.16, Chikkadasarahalli, Kuguru Post, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore, Urban-562 125, along with is mother and brothers had entered into a Joint Development Agreement dated 15/02/2010 and also General Power of Attorney 15/02/2010 in respect of the subject matter of properties indicated in the schedule to this Public Notice. However, in view of the non acting of terms of Joint Development Agreement, the said Joint Development Agreement and General Power of Attorney entered into with M/s.R.K.Cortina, having its office at: No.827, 1st Floor, 10th Main, 4th Cross, Koramangala, 3rd Block, Bangalore 560 034, represented by its Managing Partner: Sri.S.Manohar came to be canceled by causing a Public Notice dated 15/01/2025. That despite there is no any development, M/s R.K.Cortina, has illegally entered into agreement of sale dated 12/07/2021 with M/s. SAIKAM DREAM ACRES PVT. LTD., The said agreement of sale being without any substance, and no any interest or right to the said persons, my client has already caused notice calling the said persons to surrender the Joint Development and General Power Attorney, Agreement of sale and also execute cancellation of those documents, and in view of the cancellation of the Joint Development Agreement and General Power of Attorney vide notice of my client dated 15/01/2025 in respect of schedule property. In the meantime, a family dispute also being arose in respect of division of subject matter of property between the family members of my client and family members of my clients are demanding to partition of properties or else certain family member are planning to initiate proceedings for partition. In view of cancellation of Joint Development Agreement and General Power of Attorney as stated by my client, the said persons have no manner of right. However despite the said cancellation, M/s R.K.Cortina and M/s. SAIKAM DREAM ACRES PVT. LTD., hand in hand with each other are trying to develop and enter into Third Party Agreement/s and contract/s.

Therefore, the public are hereby informed through this notice not to enter into any transaction in respect of scheduled property, if you proceed to enter into any Agreement/contract/s the same will be at your risk and consequences. Hence this Public Notice

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the land bearing Sy.No. 55 measuring 8 Guntas, Sy.No.57 measuring 6 Guntas, Sy.No.7 measuring 12 Guntas, Sy.No.17 measuring 37 Guntas, Sy.No.20/2 measuring 5 3/4 Guntas, Sy.No.12/6 measuring 16 Guntas, Sy.No.49/2 measuring 10 ½ Guntas, converted Sy.No.10 measuring 1 Acre and converted land in Sy.No.8 measuring 2 Acres 9 Guntas, all lands are situated at Chikkadasarahalli, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District.

Sri. MANJUNATH G. KANDEKAR, Advocate
MGK ASSOCIATES,
No.14, Pamadi Towers, Gandhinagar, Bangalore-560009. Mob: 9448448836

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client Sri Nemichand Jain S/o Megharaj Jain is negotiating to purchase the immovable property bearing **Survey No.31,** measuring **3(Three) Acre and 39(Thirty Nine) Guntas** and 03 Guntas of Kharab, Situated at **Gadenahalli Village, Jala-2 Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District,** which is more fully described in the Schedule hereunder, from its present owner **SRI MAHESH GURAJAPALLI S/o G. BALASUBRAMNYA CHARY** r/at Sri Venkateshwara Nilaya. No.40/41, 6th Cross, Bhuvaneshwarinagar, Dasarahalli, Hebbal, Bengaluru.

It is claimed that **SRI MAHESH GURAJAPALLI S/o G.BALASUBRAMNYA CHARY** was acquired the same under registered sale deed from Sri Ramaiah @ Ramanna and their family vide document **No:YAN-1-07658/2006-07, CD.No.YAND207, dated:03.07.2006,** registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Yelahanka, Bengaluru District. He represent that there is no encumbrance of any nature, statutory or otherwise subsists in respect of Schedule Property.

This is to give notice to the public that any person/s who claims any right, title or interest of any nature in or any lien, charge or enforceable right in relation to Schedule Property and/or has any objections of any nature to the proposed transaction or is in possession or claims any right there under should lodge such claim and/or objections, in writing, with the undersigned together with supporting documents within **Ten Days** from the date of publication, failing which it will be presumed that no valid claims or objections subsist and our client would proceed to complete the transaction, subject to clear title and compliance with other statutory formalities.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the agricultural property bearing **Survey No.31,** measuring **3(Three) Acre** and **39(Thirty Nine) Guntas** and Three Guntas of Kharab, Situated at **Gadenahalli Village, Jala-2 Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District:-**

East by : Previously land of I.S.Dhruva Rao, presently belongs to Mahesh Patil, West by : Previously Government Gomala, presently property belongs to C.A.Muddammaiah, North by : Border of Navarthna Agrahara, presently property belongs to Patel Chikkamuniyappa, South by : 40 Feet Road and Chapparakal Road

From : **Venkatesha .D,** Advocate
No.441, 2nd Cross, 3rd Stage,
Basaveshwaranagara, Bangalore.
Cell:994520808, mail:venkteshd@gmail.com

IN THE COURT OF THE HON'BLE ADDL. CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE, AT BENGALURU
Misc No. 469/2024

Applicant: M/s APYA Capital Services Private Limited

A Company incorporated under the provisions of Companies Act, 1956, having its registered office at Flat No. 22, Tower 6, Pebble Bay, Raj Mahal Vilas II, Ramakrishnappa Layout, Nagashetty Halli, Bengaluru 560094. Represented by its authorized signatory, Ms. Durga. G

Also At: No. 609, 3rd Foor, 12th Main, 7th Cross, HAL 2nd Stage, Indiranagar, Bangalore 560038

-V/s-

Respondents: 6. Ms. Divya .M,
Aged about 26 years, No. 27, 1st Main Road, New Manjunath Layout, Near Balaji Nursing Home, Ramamurthy Nagar, Bangalore - 560016.
Email address:
mohan.divya76@gmail.com
Mobile Number: 9164640396

22. Mr. Sushil Kumar Singh
Aged About 36 Years, Building No 04, 3rd Cross, Near Hanuman Temple, Mandur, Bangalore - 560039.
Email address:
sushilsingh9976@gmail.com Mobile Number: 6363672611, 8369068611

24. Mr. Anshuman Anand
Aged About 34 Years, Pranathi Serene Nest, A205, Nagondanahalli, Whitefield, Bangalore 560066
Email address:
Anshuman.anand7@gmail.com
Mobile Number: 9611199429

PUBLIC NOTICE

WHEREAS, the above Applicant had preferred to file the instant appeal to initiate action against the Respondents/Defendants for committing contempt of the Court by wilfully disobeying the ex-parte temporary injunction granted by this Hon'ble Court by order dated 26/07/2023 and punish the Respondents/Defendants for such wilful disobedience in terms as provided under Order XXXIX Rule 2 A of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 and commit the Respondents/Defendants to civil prison or pass such other appropriate order as this Hon'ble Court may deem fit to grant in the facts and circumstances of the case in the interest of justice and equity.

You are hereby informed to appear before this Court in person or by a pleader duly instructed on the at **11.00 o'clock in 10/6/2026** the forenoon to show cause against the plaint, failing which the matter will be heard and determined as absent.

Given under my hand and the sale of the Court, this 16 day of April, 2026.

By Order of the Court, Senior Shirastedar, City Civil Court, Bengaluru.

Advocate for the Plaintiff
Chintan Chinnappa
Spectrum Legal,
2nd Floor, Silver Rock,
12, Nandi Durga Road,
Jayamahal, Bengaluru 560006.
Email ID: chintan@spectrumlegal.in
Ph. No.: +91 9686455514

SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

Follow us on X @SCRailwayindia
Details of the Tender Notices of S.C Railway can be seen on our website : www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER (through https://ireps.gov.in)

PUB/121/26

CE/C-I/SCCE/C/Plg&SY/SC & CE/C-IV/ SC Construction Organisation, S.C. Railway, Secunderabad, respectively, invites e-tender on behalf of the President of India for the following works.

S.No.: 1, **NIT No.:** EPC-08-CAO-C-SC-2026 Date: 17.04.2026, **Name of Work :** South Central Railway (Construction Organization)- Guntur Division - Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) contract for Construction of New BG line between Errupalem (Excl.) and Kothapalli Halt (Excl.) stations from Km 3.525 to Km 24.800 (21.275 km) in connection with New BG line between Errupalem - Namburu Via Amaravati in Guntur Division of South Central Railway in the State of Andhra Pradesh. **Estimated Cost:** Rs.415,69,28,092.98, **EMD:** Rs.8,31,38,600.00, **Completion Period:** 30 (Thirty) Months, **Date of Opening:** 18.06.2026 15:00 hrs.

S.No.: 2, **NIT No.:** 19-CAO-C-SC-2026 Date: 22.04.2026, **Name of Work :** SCR Construction Organization: Supplying of AT welding portions of 60kg/60EIR260 Grade Rails and in-situ, cess welding with Single shot crucible fitted with Automatic Tapping Thimble, 3 pieces Mould (Zircon washed) and Compressed Air Petrol/LPG pre heating technique for the proposed yard arrangement/track linking works of Nizamabad Jn., Nizamabad Bypass, Mudkhed Bypass & Proposed Kothapalli Jn. (in PDPL-NZB Section). **Estimated Cost:** Rs.1,24,22,058.00, **EMD:** Rs. 2,48,500.00, **Completion Period:** 24 (Twenty Four) Months, **Date of Opening:** 14.05.2026 15:00 hrs.

S.No.: 3, **NIT No.:** 20-CAO-C-SC-2026 Date: 22.04.2026, **Name of Work :** SCR Construction Organization: Execution of miscellaneous works to comply with CRS observations, platform raising at Fakhrabad station, and construction of SSE/P Way/Con and other office buildings at Nizamabad station, in connection with the track doubling project between Mudkhed (MUE) - Medchal (MED) Section. **Estimated Cost:** Rs.11,92,17,083.02, **EMD:** Rs. 23,84,400.00, **Completion Period:** 12 (Twelve) Months, **Date of Opening:** 15.05.2026 15:00 hrs.

S.No.: 4, **NIT No.:** 21-CAO-C-SC-2026 Date: 22.04.2026, **Name of Work :** SCR Construction Organization: Conducting Final Location Survey for (i) Bye pass line at Gudur (18 Km) (ii) FLS for 3rd and 4th line between Vijayawada-Nidadavolu (127 Km) (iii) FLS for 5th and 6th line between Ballarshah and Gudur (715Km). **Estimated Cost:** Rs.25,69,20,000.00, **EMD:** Rs. 51,38,400.00, **Completion Period:** 12 (Twelve) Months, **Date of Opening:** 14.05.2026 15:00 hrs.

S.No.: 5, **NIT No.:** 22-CAO-C-SC-2026 Date: 20.04.2026, **Name of Work :** SCR Construction- Vijayawada Division: SW:1 Proposed Construction of new Road Over Bridge in Lieu of LC No. 365 near Chebrol station yard. SW: 2 Proposed Construction of new Road Over Bridge in Lieu of LC No.369 near Badampudi station Yard. SW: 3 Proposed Construction of new Road Over Bridge in Lieu of LC No. 376 in between Navabpalem and Tadepalligudem Stations. SW: 4 Proposed Construction of new Foot Over Bridge (FOB) for Public Crossing at LC No. 365 (near Camp Office, chebrol yard) and at LC No. 369 (near Badampudi Yard). SW: 5 Construction of Camp Office. **Estimated Cost:** Rs. 192,48,87,022.01, **EMD:** Rs. 3,84,97,800.00, **Completion Period:** 24 (Twenty Four) Months, **Date of Opening:** 12.05.2026 15:00 hrs.

i) For bid document and other details, please login to website **http://ireps.gov.in.**

ii) Tenderers can submit their offers online during tender submission period which is the fifteen days period prior to closing of tender.

iii) Tenderers should watch for any corrigenda (issued online only) up to the date of commencement of the tender submission period.

Chief Admn.Officer/Const./ Secunderabad

Tender Notice No. 04/2026 Dt. 24.04.2026

PUB/122/26

Supply Of Stores Items. E-Procurement Tender Notice:- The Following Tenders Have Been Floated Online. Tenders Are Requested To Visit The Website **www.ireps.gov.in** And Submit Their Offers Online. The Tender Description, Qty, EMD, SD May Be Seen In Website. Offers Submitted Manually Will Not Be Accepted. Offers By Post Will Not Be Entertained. Tender Closing Time Is 14.30 Hrs Of The Due Date Of The Tender. "For All Indigenous Offers, EMD Will Be Accepted Only Via Online System as Available On **www.ireps.gov.in**."

Tender No.	Brief Description
25264483	Set of Springs Outer and inner for WAG7.
38261327	Coupler Rod
33265005A	GPS Location based Public Announcement and Passenger Information System (PAPIS)
82260921	HQ-Med-ZRC supply of (PH NO;37096) HOLLOW FIBER DIALYZER 1.3 m to 1.5 m2
31260009	Traction Bar/Metal rubber Bush
31261200	One Coach Set of Air Spring
33265018	Set of Elastomeric Pads
38261017	YOKE PIN
82261448	HQ- Med -GTE (PH NO; 10061) MONOCOMPONENT INSULIN
6026PT021	Procurement of HVN liner RDSO Drg.No.T-3702, RDSO Drg no.T-6938, RDSO Drg-no. T-3707 & T-3708
31253274	Axile Guide Bearing
66265800	Procurement of CATERPILLAR make spares for Track machines
6026PT020	Price Agreement for supply of M.S. Bolts and nuts of various sizes as per Annexure.
31263162	Repair Kit for Spring Brake Chamber
38262069	37mm packing for Buffer Height
38262377	Upgraded High Capacity

Note; Due dates of tender opening
SL.No.01 on dt. 11.05.2026.
SL.No. 02 on dt. 13.05.2026.
SL.No. 03 to 05 on dt. 18.05.2026.
SL.No.06 on dt. 20.05.2026.
SL.No.07 to 10 on dt. 21.05.2026.
SL.No.11on dt. 26.06.2026
SL.No.14 on dt. 27.05.2026.
SL.No.15 on dt. 28.05.2026.
SL.No.16 on dt. 08.06.2026.

CORRIGENDUM

Tender Notice No.03/2026 dt. 17.04.2026 Tender No. 67265001 due on 11.05.2026 Brieff; MIG-MAG and MMA inverter-based welding machine may be read as Tender no.67265002 instead of existing.

Beside Above Mentioned Tenders There Are Other Tenders Having Value Above Rs. 50 Lakhs for details Please Visit Railway Website Above.

Principal Chief Materials Manager/ Secunderabad
A139

For further tender conditions/ details and for downloading the tender documents, Please visit website at https://www.ireps.gov.in or www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

MAHATRANSCO
Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.

INVITATION FOR BID (IFB) (LOCAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING)

SRM e-Tender No. T-2631/MSETCL/CO/Projects/Pre-Tender (RFx No. 6000001511)

MSETCL invites offers by SRM e-tendering in TWO bid system (Techno-Commercial Bid and Price Bid) from the eligible registered bidders for the following work as detailed below.

"Establishment of 132/33 kV Kurkheda substation alongwith LILO on 132kV Lakhandur - Morgaon Arjuni line at Kurkheda (Route Length-39.066 km) on turnkey basis under Dist. Gadchiroli, Nagpur Zone, MSETCL, Maharashtra.

Interested bidders may obtain further information available on the website. **https://srmetender.mahatransco.in**

The date of downloading of Bid documents available on the website is from **21.04.2026**.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer (Projects), MSETCL

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
MASTER CONTROL FACILITY
CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE DIVISION
PB #66, Hassan – 573201.

BRIEF NOTICE INVITING TENDER

On behalf of the President of India, 'Head, Construction & Maintenance Division, MCF' invites Item rate e-tender for the following works.

Name of Work and NIT Number	**Work package contract for Technical support to CMD, MCF Hassan for a period of 24 Months. MCF/CMD/H/eTN-02/2026-27/1-1357 Dtd: 22.04.2026**
Estimated Cost put to tender (In rupees)	**Rs. 40,17,312.00**
Period of completion	**24 Months**
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD in Rupees)	**Rs. 80,346.00**
Period during which tender document can be downloaded	**From 24.04.2026, 10:00 Hrs. To 03.05.2026, 23:59 Hrs.**
Bid Clarifications	**From 24.04.2026, 10:01 Hrs. To 04.05.2026, 23:59 Hrs.**
Last date & Time of reply to bid clarifications	**05.05.2026, 17:30 Hrs.**
Last date and time for receipt of tenders	**07.05.2026, 23:59 Hrs.**
Due date and time of opening of tender (Technical Bid)	**08.05.2026, 11:30 Hrs. Onwards**

For eligibility criteria and other details, interested tenderers may please refer to the detailed biligual (Hindi-English) Notice Inviting Tender (NIT), on the website **www.isro.gov.in/Tenders.html** and tender free view at **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO.** Tenders may please participate in the tender through the website **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO**

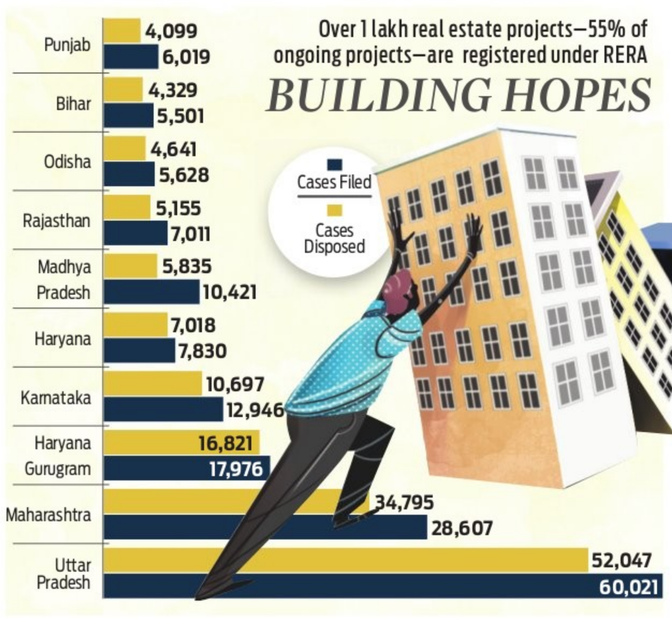
Sd/- Head, CMD

5,900 Listed companies in India, with market cap growing at 15% CAGR over the last decade. Mutual fund assets have expanded at over 20% annually during the same period

10 years of RERA: Homebuyers' wait for final solution continues

Experts say pace of dispute resolution remains concern as buyers face proceeding delays

ARSHAD KHAN @ New Delhi



THE Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016 (RERA), on May 1, is completing 10 years of regulating real estate sector, with the twin objectives of protecting homebuyers' interests and promoting transparency.

Introduced after a series of projects collapsed and developers were accused of duping buyers, RERA ushered in several key reforms, including mandatory project registration, escrow requirements mandating 70% of buyer funds be set aside for construction, and quarterly updates on construction progress. It also required developers to disclose project details and laid down penalties for delays beyond stipulated timelines.

However, RERA has its shortcomings, and questions are often raised about whether the law is fully meeting its objectives. The Supreme Court recently made sharp observations on the functioning of RERA, questioning whether the law has drifted from its original purpose of protecting homebuyers and instead become a shield for defaulting builders. Experts also point to weak enforcement, low recovery rates and developers often ignoring penalties due to reliance on slow-moving state mechanisms.

Major hits

Despite these shortcomings and wide differences in implementation across states, experts and developers say the Act has played a significant role in formalising the real estate sector. Ankita Sood, National Director–Research at Knight Frank India, said RERA's biggest achievement has been bringing much-needed transparency, accountability and structure to India's real estate market.

"Before 2016, the industry was largely fragmented and unorganised, with limited oversight. The Act helped formalise the ecosystem, discouraging fly-by-night developers and effectively straightjacketing the industry, leading to consolidation in favour of larger, more credible developers. Earlier, markets such as NCR were plagued by project defaults, litigation challenges and liquidity stress. However, with the introduction of RERA, the overall health and credibility of these markets have improved significantly," Sood said.

Ensuring timely delivery and providing for a refund clause have strengthened buyers' position in property transactions. "Buyers have an unqualified right under the Act to either withdraw from a delayed project and seek a refund, or remain in the project and claim compensation for delayed possession. These safeguards have helped protect the rights of buyers/allottees," said Manmeet Kaur, Partner at Karanjawala & Co.

Ram Raheja, Managing Director, S Raheja Realty, said that for credible long-term developers, RERA has brought a positive shift. "Over the last decade, the industry has matured meaningfully. Homebuyers are more informed and confident, and the overall quality of delivery has improved. While the transition required adjustment, it has ultimately strengthened the sector's foundations and created a more resilient ecosystem," he said.

Nikhil Madan, Managing Director at Mahima Group, said one of the most visible shifts has been in buyer sentiment.

"Increased transparency around timelines, stronger disclosure norms and structured financial governance have contributed to greater trust and confidence among homebuyers," Madan said.

Shortcomings

Sunitha Rajesh, Partner at CMS INDUSLAW, said RERA's impact has been uneven.

"Delays in project completion continue due to approval-related hurdles, financial difficulties faced by developers and limited enforcement capacity at the State RERA level. Although the law promises time-bound grievance redressal, many buyers continue to face prolonged proceedings and difficulties in enforcing orders," she said.

Rajesh said there are several gaps in the law, including the absence of a clear process for granting force majeure extensions, weak enforcement of penalties, limited emphasis on construction quality and the lack of a structured approach to reviving stalled projects.

In addition, unresolved overlaps between RERA and insolvency proceedings have adversely affected ongoing housing projects, she said. When a developer enters insolvency, RERA-ordered compensation or refunds are often paused, while the Interim Resolution Professional (IRP) takes control of assets.

Kaur of Karanjawala & Co said the multiplicity of litigation across forums such as RERA, NCLT and NCDRC can lead to divergent directions from different adjudicating bodies, potentially delaying project completion.

"It is advisable to bring all homebuyer disputes — including relief for project completion, refunds and compensation claims — before a single adjudicating authority to avoid multiplicity of litigation," Kaur added.

Sood of Knight Frank highlighted that the pace of dispute resolution remains a concern. Only around 1.6 lakh cases have been disposed of over the past decade, which appears modest relative to the scale of the market, where nearly 300,000 homes are sold annually on average in the primary market.

The way forward

Rajesh of CMS INDUSLAW said making RERA truly effective will require targeted legislative amendments, including mechanisms for force majeure extensions, stronger penal provisions to create meaningful deterrence, improved oversight of construction quality, structured processes for reviving stalled projects and better coordination with insolvency authorities.

There is also a growing call for greater uniformity in implementation across India.

"The next chapter for RERA should be 'One Nation, One RERA'. Reducing excessive state-level divergence and moving towards greater national uniformity would deliver better outcomes for both homebuyers and developers. There is a clear need to harmonise state-level rules so stakeholders operate under broadly similar standards regardless of geography," Sood said.

Builders, meanwhile, are seeking single-window clearances for projects.

Dhaval Ajmera, Director–Corporate Affairs at Ajmera Realty, said improving RERA's effectiveness would require simplifying the approval process and fully automating it. "Overall, RERA has been a game-changer. It has provided a framework of accountability and sustainability for the industry. While there is scope for improving approvals and implementation, the trajectory remains promising for buyers and credible developers alike," Ajmera added.

NEWSCOPE

BIG TECH LAYOFFS NOW FUNDING AI EXPANSION

GURBIR SINGH

BIG technology firms are laying off employees big time and they are saying it is all about artificial intelligence (AI). The feared massacre is happening. But is it AI, or are these greedy companies trying to keep their high profit margins by 'right-sizing'?

The debate has erupted as Meta has just announced plans to lay off 8,000 employees globally, about 10% of its workforce, many of them from India. The company is also discontinuing 6,000 open jobs.

"We're doing this as part of our continued effort to run the company more efficiently and to allow us to offset the other investments we're making," Meta's chief people officer Janelle Gale told *Bloomberg*.

The company spent $72.2 billion on capital expenditures in 2025, or costs related to setting up data centers, buying startups and other AI infrastructure. That number is expected to climb to at least $115 billion in 2026, Meta said in its January earnings report.

Meta is not the only tech major that is on an AI-related spree of spending and sackings. Oracle, founded by billionaire Larry Ellison, announced on March 31 that it is cutting 20,000 to 30,000 employees. In February, Block, Jack Dorsey's company, cut more than 4,000 jobs, almost half the company's staff, in a major restructuring to integrate AI and create smaller, faster teams. Earlier in January, Amazon said it would lay off 16,000 workers, many of them from its India operations.

If the world is a global village, the integration is almost complete in technology. Thus, its not surprising India is part of the bloodbath. TCS has claimed it has shed 12,000 employees world-wide since mid-2025, but ground reporting shows the figure is closer to 30,000. The company says shedding 2% of its workforce is to manage costs and to restructure in a period of global uncertainty.

Tech Mahindra has let go 3,500 employees while Infosys has been doing 'silent layoffs' and exits. Executive search firm Longhouse Consulting said start-ups like Livspace and Zepto had sacked around 4,500 employees since July 2025.

High profits

These layoffs have nothing to do with poor financial performance. Meta Platforms, which has just announced a huge layoff, delivered robust figures for 2025 on strong ad revenue. Turnover for the year was $200.97 billion, a 22% year-on-year increase, while net profit logged $60.46 billion.

Likewise, Microsoft demonstrated strong financial performance, with revenue for the 12 months ending December 31, 2025, hitting $305.45 billion with net income at $119 billion. Revenue has consistently grown, from $212 billion from 2023 on the back of key businesses like Azure, Microsoft 365 Copilot, and Gaming (ActiBlizz).

MANDAR PARDIKAR

Despite these robust financials, Microsoft sacked 15,000 employees last year, and in April 2026 announced it would offer voluntary retirement to approximately 7% of its US workforce, or about 125,000 employees. The massive cuts this year are aimed not to shore up financials, but to free up funds to invest $80 to 120 billion in AI infrastructure.

Some of these companies are also saying they are shedding employees because AI agents can handle tasks previously requiring large teams, especially in customer support and back office operations; and that they are reducing management layers and moving towards smaller, flatter teams.

Is AI an excuse?

But on the other side there are those like Sam Altman, CEO of OpenAI, who say all this is 'AI washing' - an excuse for layoffs that were already in the works, and nothing to do with AI technology. During the 2020-22 pandemic, many companies hired aggressively. Getting rid of this bloated headcount, these companies are now posing it as "AI related efficiency clean-up".

Its also got to do with stock price management, as shareholders and investors are positive about AI-triggered staff restructuring but would punish managements who have gone wrong on headcount.

A report in 2025 from Challenger, Gray & Christmas claimed that, while over a million layoffs occurred in 2025 across sectors, only 55,000, or less than 5%, were directly attributed to AI.

There is no doubt AI is impacting both jobs and productivity in a big way. Economist and Stanford University's Digital Economy Lab director Erik Brynjolfsson showed decoupling of job growth and GDP in the US. His analysis revealed a 2.7% year-on-year productivity growth last year mainly attributable to AI impacting efficiency and services. However, Brynjolfsson's study also showed that a 13 percent relative decline in employment for early-career employees especially those in units with a high level of AI exposure. But most experienced workers saw levels of employment that remained stable or grew.

Prominent tech leaders like Anthropic CEO Dario Amodei have warned of a white-collar bloodbath, with AI potentially wiping out 50 percent entry-level office jobs. OpenAI's Sam Altmen however differs. "We'll find new kinds of jobs, as we do with every tech revolution," he said. "But I would expect that the real impact of AI doing jobs in the next few years will begin to be palpable."

A study by the National Bureau of Economic Research, in February this year found that of thousands of surveyed C-suite executives across the U.S., the U.K., Germany, and Australia, 90 percent said AI had no impact on workplace employment over the past three years following the late-2022 release of ChatGPT.

Business & Beyond

Ex-Tesla India director joins Venttup as strategic advisor

Manufacturing as a Service company Venttup has announced the appointment of Prashanth R. Menon as Strategic Advisor, who will play a key role in driving its scale-up strategy, global expansion plans, and long-term growth roadmap, with a strong focus on profitability. He brings over two decades of global leadership experience across strategy, operations, and business transformation. He served as Director – India at Tesla, where he was responsible for devising the vision and strategy for Tesla's India entry and establishing its operations across multiple verticals. He also served as Chairman of the Tesla India Board. Sandeep Nair, Co-founder CEO, Venttup, said, "His experience in strategy and transformation will help us accelerate our journey towards building a world-class manufacturing startup."

Bharti Real Estate launches Abhigyan, a unique industry-academia engagement initiative

Bharti Real Estate, the real estate arm of Bharti Enterprises and owner of the Worldmark brand, has launched Abhigyan, an industry-academia engagement initiative designed to bridge the gap between classroom learning and real-world application in the real estate and infrastructure sector. Structured as an experiential field-visit programme, Abhigyan aims to give students practical exposure to large-scale developments and help them better understand the nuances of planning, design and execution that shape modern urban infrastructure. The campaign began with its first on-ground engagement, hosting civil engineering students from the IIT Delhi at Worldmark, Aerocity, New Delhi.

MIDC–KOSME MoU gives new momentum to Korean investment in Maharashtra

Taking note of the growing interest of Korean companies in investing in Maharashtra, the Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC) and Korea SMEs & Startups Agency (KOSME) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 20 April 2026 in New Delhi to promote investment, skill development and industrial cooperation. A detailed discussion on opportunities for Korean investment in Maharashtra, industrial facilitation, skill development and technology cooperation had recently taken place in Pune between MIDC Chief Executive Officer P. Velrasu and senior officials of KOSME. This agreement emerged as a continuation of those discussions. The event was attended by MIDC's Jt- CEO Varsha Thakur-Ghuge, GM (Marketing) Dr. Vikas Suryawanshi, and other officials, while KOSME Vice President Jang Hyung Park and other members of the KOSME team were present on behalf of KOSME.

Sebi must simplify KYC process: FM

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Mumbai

STATING that investors and citizens should have better and improved experience of financial services, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said that the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) should take the lead in simplifying and digitising the know-your-customer (KYC) guidelines so that there is a single, unified and portable KYC process across the sector.

Speaking at the 38th foundation day of the Sebi here on Saturday, Sitharaman said the Sebi should help drive common KYC norms across all financial sectors, which has been a long-pending reform discussed at meetings of the Financial Stability and Development Council.

"Each regulator is keen to do it. I would suggest that Sebi help drive the prescription of the common KYC norms and the simplification and digitisation of KYC processes across the financial market," Sitharaman said, Sebi's scale, digital infrastructure and institutional credibility position it well to anchor this effort, she added.

She also called for stronger enforcement and surveillance, underlining that credibility of markets hinges on consistent action against wrongdoing.

"Market participants must know not only that misconduct will be investigated but that it will be pursued firmly, consistently and without hesitation," she said.

Flagging her concerns around the misuse of retail investor trust, cautioning against its monetization for personal gain, she called for enabling frameworks for responsible financial education, while warning that regulators should not tolerate exploitative practices targeting uninformed investors. "We need enabling frameworks for responsible financial education. But we should not tolerate the monetisation of uninformed retail investor trust for personal enrichment," Sitharaman said.

On the global front, Sitharaman urged Sebi to institutionalise more frequent and substantive consultations with regulators and market participants overseas.

US levies 123% anti-dumping duties on Indian solar cells, modules

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE US has imposed preliminary anti-dumping duties on Indian solar cells and modules, intensifying trade scrutiny in the renewable energy sector. The US Department of Commerce levied a provisional duty of 123.04% on Indian shipments, alleging that Indian products are being sold in the US at unfairly low prices.

According to an official fact sheet, the department has also levied dumping duties of 35.17% for Indonesia and 22.46% for Laos. Together, the three countries accounted for nearly $4.5 billion worth of solar imports to the US last year—roughly two-thirds of total inbound shipments.

FRESH THREAT

1. The US has levied duties of 35.17% on Indonesia
2. Laos to face anti-dumping duties of 22.46%
3. Three nations export $45 bn solar products to US

The investigation began after there was a complaint lodged in July 2025 by a US industry body alleging that manufacturers from India, Indonesia and Laos enjoy unfair benefits from subsidies. The Alliance for American Solar Manufacturing and Trade, which filed the petition, includes Tempe, Arizona-based First Solar, Qcells, the solar division of Korea's Hanwha, and private companies Talon PV and Mission Solar.

Earlier this year, in February 2026, Washington had already imposed countervailing duties, including a 126% levy on Indian solar exports.

EXPRESS READ

Axis Bank reports 0.6% fall in profit at ₹7,071 cr

MUMBAI: Axis Bank on Saturday reported a marginal decline of 0.6% net profit for the March quarter of FY26 at ₹7,071 crore against ₹7,118 crore during the same period in FY25. The bank said it has made an additional provision of ₹2,001 crore in order to deal with geopolitical tensions emerging due to the Iran war.

Vanshika, Chirag win 10m air pistol mixed team gold

Vanshika Chaudhary and Chirag Sharma won the 10m air pistol mixed team event at the ISSF Junior World Cup on Saturday, taking India's gold tally to five. The duo shot 484.3 to shrug off the challenge of Aliaksandra Piatrova and Mikita Daubash (467.6) representing the Individual Neutral Athletes (AIN). India still remain on top of the table.

RECORD PLAY: KINGS RULE

Rahul century in vain as Prabhsimran, Shreyas step up to help PBKS chase down record total

GOMESH S @Chennai

FOR a moment, it seemed like the Delhi Capitals had caught a break. Vipraj Nigam, coming in as concussion substitute after Lungi Ngidi had to be taken off the field in an ambulance, had removed the dangerous Nehal Wadhera. And now, Punjab Kings' skipper Shreyas Iyer had mistimed one to the same fielder — Karun Nair – who caught Wadhera.

Punjab were chasing a world record — 265 — total and it seemed possible with 63 needed from 31 balls. However, they had already lost four wickets and another one, especially that of Shreyas who was on 28 from 20 balls, could have been a game-changer. But, Nair dropped a sitter. Shreyas breathed a sigh of relief and so did Punjab. It only got worse for Capitals and Nair. Shreyas hit a four of the very next ball he faced before being dropped, again, by Nair. At this point, it seemed like destiny and Shreyas was not going to let the chance go. He rained boundaries on DC bowlers from there on, going from 29 off 21 to 71 not out off 36 balls, taking them across the line and breaking records in the process.

Shreyas Iyer hit an unbeaten fifty to help PBKS remain unbeaten this season | BCCI

Shreyas, however, did not do it alone. He was helped by Prabhsimran Singh (76 off 26) and Priyansh Arya (43 off 17) who set the tone upfront as PBKS smashed 116/0 in six overs. For Delhi, it did not help that their key bowler in Ngidi got injured.

While trying to take a catch in the fifth over, Ngidi fell on his back and hit his head. For several minutes, he did not move and an ambulance was brought onto the field. Before being stretchered off into the ambulance, he seemed to be responsive and was taken to the hospital. Later, IPL said in a statement that he is stable and under observation.

That left DC players a little rattled. And despite their effort to regroup, PBKS did not take their foot off the steam and recorded the highest chase in T20s. It also meant that KL Rahul's sensational unbeaten 152 was all in vain. Rahul, who has moved up the order for Capitals this season, has been delivering consistently with the bat. On Saturday, he was on song again, taking apart PBKS bowlers on a hot Saturday afternoon. Rahul hit 16 fours and nine sixes, showing his full range of strokeplay across the Arun Jaitley Stadium. He had good company in Nitish Rana as the duo added 220 runs for the second wicket. Rana himself hit a 44-ball 91, bringing joy to the Capitals fans as they finished with 264/2.

It, however, was not enough as Shreyas once again led with fire and fury to keep Punjab Kings unbeaten this season. With six wins in seven games, one no result, the 2025 runners-up remain on top of the table.

Brief scores: Delhi Capitals 264/2 in 20 ovs (Rahul 152 n.o, Rana 91) **lost to** Punjab Kings 265/4 in 18.5 ovs (Arya 43, Prabhsimran 76, Shreyas 71 n.o).

RINGSIDE VIEW

NIEVA WANTS BOXERS TO RAISE BAR AT CWG

ANMOL GURUNG @Chennai

AS a collective, the Indian women's boxing team is riding high at the moment. The up-and-coming pugilists have come to the forefront in the last twelve months or so and the team has been hunting in packs to produce some stinging punches at elite-level competitions.

With some impressive returns at World Cups, World Championships (both last year) and most-recently the Asian Championships, where they captured medals at all weight categories including four gold, the women have beaten some reputable names to signal their progress. Santiago Nieva, head coach of the team, is pleased with the promise that his wards have displayed. There are telltale signs that the women could go on to capture more medals in the days to come. However, Nieva is not getting carried away. The Commonwealth Games and Asian Games are the team's next primary goals. The Argentina-born Swedish coach wants his wards to build on the promise and raise the bar at the CWG, which is set to be held at Glasgow in July-August.

Boxing team coach Santiago Nieva

"I'm very happy with the performance level, with the results in the Boxam tournament (held from February 1 to 8 at Alicante, Spain). There were some Asian countries but it was mainly European countries then. We had eight boxers in the final and we won seven gold medals. It is of course difficult to gauge the level there, given that most Asian were not part of it," he told this daily. "In the Asian Championships, we had six in the final and four gold medals, three of them in Olympic weight categories. Beating several world champions and Olympic medallists is highly promising but we need to keep working hard as we have some important competitions coming up. We want to show similar performances in the CWG and Asiad. We know that these competitions will be very tough," he added. Bhiwani's Priya Ghanghas, taking part in her first major event, was one of the standouts for India. "All the girls, especially the ones who captured gold, went about their business in impressive fashion. Preeti and Priya had the toughest competition, the draw was the biggest as they had to fight four bouts for gold and they had tough opposition from the start. All the girls who won gold have done really well."

SUNDAY SPECIAL

Arundhati Choudhary, the former youth world champ, also left a notable impression during the Asian meet. "She is doing great. She came back from injury. In Spain and Mongolia, she displayed high levels. The Kazakh world champion (Natalya Bogdovana) did not take part, we have to see her against that type of opposition. She looks strong and we have high expectations. We also need to work on adding variations to her game."

The team of course has scope for plenty of improvements. While the lesser-known boxers have thrived, Nikhat Zareen, who lost against Wu Yu, the reigning Olympic champion in the Asian meet, and Lovlina Borgohain — two premier boxers who have set high standards in the past — have had it hard in terms of results. Nieva expects both of them to find their range soon.

"In Nikhat's case, there's no shame in losing against an Olympic champion. I liked the way she started the fight against Wu Yu. That is promising for the future. She showed good tactics, composure in the opening round. We then managed to get the bout where she wanted. We need to make sure we can improve. "She has won gold at the CWG before. There's a lot of scope for improvement but as long as she is motivated, she will be back. Obviously, the 51kg category is very strong in India and we have an assessment coming up. So she needs to take that first. We have improved her offensive game. Not just Nikhat, some of the girls have the tendency to get into messy bouts and they have difficulty in coming out of those situations. So we have worked on that. We see some improvements but it's also not a quick fix. When we get more time for boxing, the chances of winning will increase."

Full story: newindianexpress.com

EXPRESS READ

Abhay loses to former World No 1 Gawad

NEW DELHI: India's Abhay Singh lost to Egyptian former world No. 1 and world champion Karim Gawad in a thriller in the men's quarterfinals of the Grasshopper Cup squash, a PSA Gold-level event, in Zurich. World No 24 Singh recovered from 6-0 down to force the opening game into tie-break, and went toe-to-toe with world No. 4 Gawad in the second, before the Egyptian second seed clinched the contest 12-10, 11-9.

3x15 badminton scoring system from Jan 4, 2027

CHENNAI: The Badminton World Federation members approved the 3x15 scoring system, replacing the 3x21 format, during its AGM on Saturday. "The BWF membership has voted to approve the adoption of the 3×15 scoring system at the 87th BWF Annual General Meeting, with the proposal passing by the required two-thirds majority of votes cast," the BWF said. The system will come into effect from January 4, 2027.

Ugandan duo Sarah and Harbert eye top honours

BENGALURU: Defending champion Sarah Chelangat and Harbert Kibet aim to make an Ugandan double by winning the women's and men's titles respectively in the 18th edition of the TCS World 10K, a World Athletics Gold Label Road Race, here on Sunday. Sarah was not fully fit when she won the title last year but she is looking to better her 2025 winning time of 31 minutes 7 seconds.

Indian stars headline UTT Season 7 pool

NEW DELHI: Leading Indians Manav Thakkar, Manush Shah and Diya Chitale headline the player pool for Ultimate Table Tennis Season 7, while G Sathiyan and Manika Batra were retained by their respective franchises ahead of next week's auction. The seventh edition of the franchise-based league will be held from July 9-26 at the Dr Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Indoor Stadium in Goa.

Vaibhav ton in vain, Hyderabad win

AGENCIES @Jaipur

TEEN sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi's thrill-a-second 103, the third fastest IPL hundred off 36 balls, was eclipsed by a collective batting effort by Sunrisers Hyderabad as the visitors etched a commanding five-wicket win here on Saturday.

Ishan Kishan smacked a 31-ball 74 while Abhishek Sharma rode on a couple of lifelines to make 57 off 29 balls to lead SRH's charge as they scaled down a 229-run target with nine balls to spare. It, in fact, was the fourth highest run chase ever in the IPL, close on the heels of a record 265-run chase mounted by Punjab Kings against Delhi Capitals earlier in the day at New Delhi. Heinrich Klaasen (29) and Nitish Kumar Reddy (36) put on 53 runs for the fourth wicket to finish the job. The Royals, despite having a par total on board, deployed as many as eight bowling options but poor fielding let their bowlers down. **Brief scores:** RR 228/6 in 20 ovs (Sooryavanshi 103, Jurel 51; Malinga 2/38) **lost to** SRH 229/5 in 18.3 ovs (Kishan 74, Sharma 57; Archer 2/34).

Ishan Kishan celebrates his fifty on Saturday | BCCI

Arsenal post nervy win to regain top spot in PL

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chennai

ARSENAL regained the top spot in the Premier League with a fighting 1-0 win over Newcastle on Saturday.

With Manchester City not part of the EPL fixture this weekend, Arsenal had the chance to regain lead and they did just that thanks to Eberechi Eze scoring the lone goal of the match. With this victory, Arsenal now have 73 points, having played a game more than Man City, who got the better of Southampton 2-1 on the day to reach FA Cup final. Man City have 70 points in 33 games.

Arsenal's Eberechi Eze (L) celebrates scoring against Newcastle | AFP

Relegation battle

West Ham scored a late winner to stay two points clear of Tottenham in the battle to avoid relegation on a day of breathless drama. Spurs looked set to escape the bottom three with just minutes remaining after their late goal against Wolves and Everton's equaliser at the London Stadium. But West Ham substitute Callum Wilson scored a winner in the 92nd minute to restore West Ham's two-point cushion, with just four games to go.

Meanwhile, Liverpool beat Crystal Palace 3-1, getting the better of their opponents for the first time in four meetings this season to climb into fourth place above Aston Villa, who earlier lost 1-0 at Fulham.

Results: Fulham **1-0** Aston Villa; Liverpool **3-1** Crystal Palace; West Ham **2-1** Everton; Wolves **0-1** Spurs; Arsenal **1-0** Newcastle.

Real Madrid held

Former Barcelona defender Hector Bellerin snatched Real Betis a late point in a 1-1 La Liga draw against Real Madrid on Friday to do his former side a favour in the Spanish title race. Alvaro Arbeloa's Madrid seemed set to chop down Barca's lead but the Catalans sit provisionally eight points ahead of Madrid after Bellerin cancelled out Vinicius Junior's opener.

CSK keen to continue good show

ASHOK VENUGOPAL @Chennai

AFTER a statement win against arch-rivals Mumbai Indians at the Wankhede Stadium on Thursday (April 23), Chennai Super Kings return home to face a wounded Gujarat Titans team in the Indian Premier League at the MA Chidambaram Stadium on Sunday.

The five-time champions after a sluggish start to the tournament have won three of the last four matches and would look to consolidate. One man who has put CSK on rails is new wicket-keeper batter Sanju Samson. His century the other day against Mumbai helped Ruturaj Gaikwad and Co register a facile win. Meanwhile, Gujarat Titans would look to get back to winning ways. After a strong start, they lost their last two matches to MI and a five-wicket loss to Royal Challengers Bengaluru on Friday. Despite being level on six points with CSK, GT see themselves seventh due to a lesser net run rate (-0.790). For the hosts its top order has been clicking in turns. With Ayush Mhatre out due to injury Sarfaraz Khan was pushed up the order, but the Mumbai batter failed in the previous game.He is likely to continue in the same spot against Gujarat. However the middle order is a matter of concern for CSK. In the defeat to Sunrisers Hyderabad, the middle-order collapsed at a point where CSK required about 130 runs from 90 balls. The wait for MS Dhoni's return to the playing XI may continue. CSK head coach Stephen Fleming said that he was progressing well and was on the road to recovery and doing everything that's being asked of him. It is also time for Skipper Gaikwad to turn up. CSK's head coach Stephen Fleming defended his captain.

MS Dhoni with Akeal Hosein during training in Chennai | ASHWIN PRASATH

"Ruturaj is a quality player and a young captain that's working himself into the role. And he's doing a good job. I know he's getting a lot of heat from outside, but within (the team) he's got a lot of support and he's very well respected within the side and that will continue," he told reporters on Saturday.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

CHENNAI SEEK MOMENTUM

After beating Mumbai, Chennai Super Kings face Gujarat Titans while Lucknow and Kolkata fight in bottom. A look...

Brevis batting position

While Dewald Brevis batting at No 5 not working out, CSK will have to figure out a way to use him better. With Urvil Patel expected to come in for Ayush Mhatre, Brevis will have to shoulder more responsibility with the bat as well.

Will Sai Kishore play?

After being one of their key players last season, R Sai Kishore has not been taken the field so far this year. Titans may have to relook their strategy, especially knowing full well that Sai Kishore will be playing at his home ground in Chennai.

Lucknow desperate

Having lost four on the trot, Lucknow have to win six of the next seven games. They play against the one team that has fared worse than them so far. Could this be the chance for the desperate turnaround they are looking for?

CSK vs GT, Chennai, 3.30 PM
LSG vs KKR, Lucknow, 7.30 PM
Live on Star Sports and JioHotstar

Action from Bengaluru FC vs Mumbai City FC ISL match | VINOD KUMAR T

Bengaluru FC held at home by Mumbai City

ENS @Bengaluru

BENGALURU FC finished their last home match with a goalless draw against Mumbai City FC in the Indian Super League at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium on Saturday. Head coach Pep Muñoz made one change to the starting XI from the game against East Bengal, with Lalremtluanga Fanai replacing Suresh Wangjam in midfield.

The opening 20 minutes of the first half were intense, with Mumbai City FC coming closest to breaking the deadlock. Gurpreet Singh Sandhu produced a crucial save after a cross from the left flank found Valpuia at the far post.

In the 38th minute, Bengaluru FC came close through Ryan Williams, who guided a deep cross from Ashique Kuruniyan just wide of the target. With both teams locked in a tense battle, the game headed into the break level at 0-0.

At the start of the second half, Lallinzuala Chhangte missed a golden opportunity for Mumbai City FC. Finding himself one-on-one with Gurpreet, he did well to round him but fired into the side netting, sparing the Blues' blushes.

In the 52nd minute, Bengaluru FC were forced into a change as Nikhil Poojary limped off after a heavy landing and was replaced by the returning Namgyal Bhutia. It proved to be a difficult day for the Blues on the right flank, as Williams also had to walk off with a knock, with Soham Varshneya coming on in his place in the 60th minute. Despite a flurry of chances, BFC failed to convert them into goals.

INDIAN FOOTBALL

Not going just to defend: Women's U17 coach Conti on Asian Cup

CHANDRA PRABHU @Chennai

'HUMBLE' is the word coach Pamela Conti uses to describe the Indian women's U17 team. After leading the side to victory in the U19 SAFF women's championship earlier this year, Conti's girls have been preparing for the crucial AFC U17 Women's Asian Cup, beginning from May in China. They played three friendly matches against Russia in Sochi last week, all of which they lost. When she took over as coach in January 2026, Conti was in the process of implementing an interesting philosophy. Defensive organisation seen in Italian teams, and the possession-based style of play prevalent in Spain. All from her experience coaching in both those countries.

In a free-wheeling chat with this daily, she spoke on the preparations for the tournament, the progress in her footballing ideas, and her relationship with the players. Excerpts...

On friendly matches in Russia

It was a good experience for us. We played against a European team.They were very good players, physically strong. For us, it was very important because they are a bit similar to Australia. For us, it was important to play against Russia. We can understand what we find when we arrive in China.

Pamela Conti

On players adapting to her ways

In the last match against Russia, we lost 0-3, but we had 60 per cent possession. That is very important for us. It is also important to not just defend but to attack. We have our methodology. We work on having possession and passing drills every day. For players at this age, it's important that they know about fast control and open bodies. They don't need to be scared of the ball. We can do it. But the Indian team, sometimes, they don't believe. For example, we talk about our goalkeeper. She wants to pass a long pass. We need to understand that they are young players. When you lose the ball and they score a goal, it gets complicated for young players. They need to understand that they need to make mistakes. If you want to grow and build a good mentality, you need to make a lot of mistakes just now. Then you are much better. We need time to change that mentality.

Q&A

On India's objectives at the Asian Cup

As I always say, when the match starts, it is 11 against 11. Not 20 against 11. We go there and we want to do our best. We know and we have respect for Australia, Lebanon and Japan (India's opponents in Group B). We know it's very complicated for us but we don't want to go there just to defend. We believe in ourselves. We know we are a good team and we try to do our best.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

FOCUS FEATURE

PRODUCT MARKETING FEATURE

LONG MARCH OF A CONGRESSMAN

Over four decades in state and national politics, Ramesh Chennithala has established himself as a force to reckon with

THE name Ramesh Chennithala has been a constant in the shifting theatre of Kerala politics. Across four decades, Chennithala has moved through the ranks of the Indian National Congress, taking on one responsibility after another in a career built on persistence. Rising from student activism to become the youngest minister in the state, serving four terms as Member of Parliament and five as MLA, and holding key responsibilities that span generations of party history. From state president of KSU and national president of NSUI to Youth Congress chief, KPCC president, AICC secretary overseeing multiple states, Home Minister in the Oommen Chandy government, and later Leader of Opposition in the Kerala Assembly, his political journey has traversed organisation-building, governance, parliamentary debates and high-stakes accountability politics.

In recent years, however, he has remained a quieter force within the Congress. Even after being denied key positions, including that of being a permanent member of the Working Committee (since 2023, Chennithala is a permanent invitee of the WC) and the post of Opposition Leader, Chennithala chose not to create friction within the party. Instead, he continued as a loyal member, supporting the leadership.

Once I commit to take over a responsibility, I will fight till the end. I try to forget all other things. That is my style

Chennithala's proximity with the Gandhi family has, at times, cost him politically. As national president of the Youth Congress, he organised a massive rally that drew attention in Delhi, but was later asked to step down by senior leader P V Narasimha Rao, reportedly because he was seen as close to Rajiv Gandhi.

Known as an organisational strategist, Chennithala's career has been marked more by endurance than spectacle.

Chennithala's instinct for ground-level work is most visible in his home constituency of Haripad. Sixteen years ago, he launched the Gandhi Gramam initiative, inspired by Gandhian ideals of self-reliance and community care. The project centres on direct engagement—helping families secure housing, supporting students from modest backgrounds, and improving basic infrastructure in neglected pockets. Each New Year's Day, Chennithala and his family spend time with villagers, sharing a meal and listening to their concerns. Years ago, Chennithala also founded a special school called Sabarmati, which provides education free of cost to its students.

Jai Hind, the first television channel by a political party in the country was launched during his tenure as KPCC president. He also played a key role in setting up the Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Development Studies. In addition, several initiatives took shape under Chennithala's leadership, including the Samskara Sahithi cultural wing, Jawahar Balavedhi and Priyadarshini Publications.

Away from politics, Chennithala is also in the final stages of writing a novel, adding another chapter to a life shaped by public service.

There is a quiet steadiness in the way Ramesh Chennithala narrates his life. No dramatic turning points. No sweeping claims of destiny. Instead, his story moves forward with deliberate restraint, marked by responsibilities he accepted and roles he fulfilled without fanfare.

"I was not interested in politics during my school days," he begins, almost as if to distance himself from any suggestion of early ambition. It is an unexpected starting point for a man who would go on to become one of Kerala's most recognisable Congress leaders, hold ministerial office at a young age, lead the party organisation at multiple levels and serve as Leader of the Opposition.

Yet, his personal trajectory would, in many ways, mirror the evolution of modern Kerala's politics shaped by food shortages, ideological churn, organisational struggles, governance challenges and a sustained commitment to the Congress tradition.

Ramesh Chennithala with Rahul Gandhi during the Bharat Jodo Yatra

FROM PADDY FIELDS TO POWER CORRIDORS

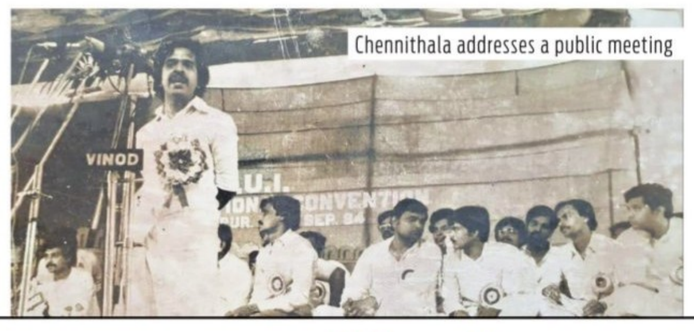
To understand Chennithala's entry into public life, one must return to Kerala of the 1960s. It was a period marked by acute food scarcity. Public discourse revolved around survival.

As an eighth-grade student, he witnessed an initiative that altered his course. The then KSU state president, who would later become Chief Minister, Oommen Chandy, led a programme titled 'Oru Para Nellu Onathinu'. The idea was to encourage students to cultivate paddy before Onam and contribute, in however small a measure. "That paddy cultivation episode was the moment," Chennithala recalls. "We leased land, sowed paddy seeds and harvested it. That experience of working collectively for society was my stepping stone into public life."

Politics did not arrive through fiery speeches or ideological indoctrination. It came through soil and sweat. Soon after, he was drawn into the Kerala Students Union (KSU). Within a short span, he became secretary of the organisation. By the time he completed Class 10, he was district treasurer, later he moved to the state executive.

Then came the Congress split of 1978. The party fractured, loyalties were tested. "I stood with Indira Gandhi and K Karunakaran," he says, aligning himself with the Congress mainstream during one of its most turbulent phases. By 1980, he became state president of KSU. In 1982, the Congress fielded him in Haripad, a constituency where the party had never tasted success. "I won that election at the age of 26." He says it plainly. No flourish. No dramatics. Just a statement of fact.

From KSU, he rose to become National President of the National Students' Union of India. Rajiv Gandhi was overseeing party affairs at the time. The exposure widened. Responsibilities multiplied. Travel intensified. Delhi became as familiar as Kerala.



Chennithala addresses a public meeting

Weight of Early Responsibility

At 28, he was sworn in as a minister in the K Karunakaran government. That was barely five days after his wedding. He remains Kerala's youngest-ever minister. "It was a very rare opportunity for a youngster in Kerala," he recalls. But he does not romanticise the experience. "Life was so hectic that I hardly had time for my family. I couldn't even visit my parents regularly."

The demands of the office were relentless. Later, when he became a Member of Parliament and served as national president of the Youth Congress, the travel became even more intense. "I had to shuttle constantly between Kerala and Delhi. Naturally, my two sons were taken care of by my wife. I never even went to my children's school."

There is no trace of self-pity in the recollection. Only an acknowledgment of what commitment required. "Once I commit to take over a responsibility, I will fight till the end. I try to forget all other things. That is my style." It is a line that functions as a personal credo. In it lies both the discipline and the cost of his political life.

The Organisational Man

If some leaders are defined by the offices they hold, Chennithala sees himself defined by the organisation he sustained. "Basically, I am an organisational man who has always stood with the party," he says.

His résumé supports the claim. State president of KSU. National president of NSUI. National president of the Youth Congress. KPCC president. AICC secretary for nearly a decade, handling multiple states, including seven in the North-east. Member of the Congress Working Committee. "Mostly, I was in the organisation," he notes. "At the age of 28, I was minister only for a year. After that, I became Home Minister decades later. I never asked for a post, even while I was in Parliament."

There was, however, a moment when his path might have diverged. Based in Delhi, fluent in Hindi, handling complex state assignments, he was well positioned to build a long-term national profile. Then Karunakaran left the Congress in 2005 and floated the Democratic Indira Congress. "At that time, my friends asked me to come to Kerala. That's when I shifted base. Otherwise, I would have stayed in Delhi. I don't know whether it was a mistake or not." It is a rare admission of doubt. A fleeting acknowledgment of the alternative trajectory that might have unfolded.

Minister Who Took on the Moneylenders

In 2014, when he became Home Minister in the Oommen Chandy cabinet, the challenges were immediate and stark. "When I took over, people were committing suicide because of harassment by unscrupulous moneylenders," he says. "That was a major issue." He launched Operation Kubera to crack down on illegal money lending networks. "I fought strongly against the menace. People supported me."

He also initiated anti-drug campaigns, including a statewide walkathon that drew thousands. "Even now, I continue that work as a social worker," he says, suggesting that certain causes transcend official tenure.

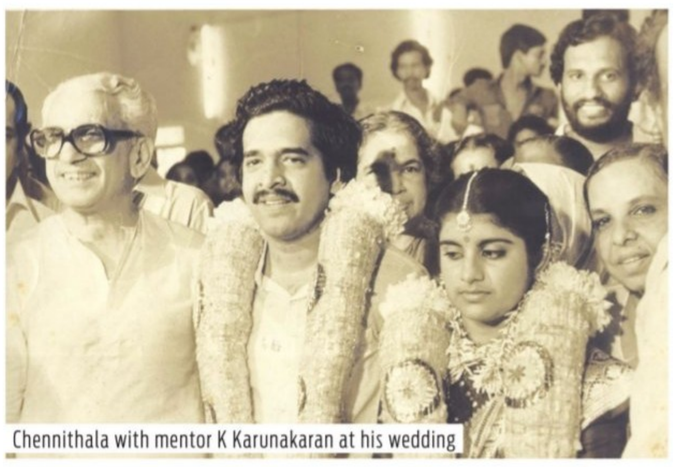
Prison reform became another focus. "Jail is a correctional service," he says emphatically. Under his watch, jail rules were restructured. Programmes were introduced to enable convicts to work, earn money and pursue education. Facilities were modernised to support livelihood training. "But I couldn't finish it fully. That remains a concern."

There was also an ambitious proposal for a Police University, an institution dedicated to modern policing technologies and professional training. "It was a dream project," he says. "Unfortunately, it did not materialise." In his telling, governance is not only about what is achieved, but also about what remains incomplete.

Chennithala leads a 'padayatra' in Alappuzha to create awareness against rising drug abuse in Kerala

Chennithala with former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi

Chennithala greets Wayanad MP, Priyanka Gandhi



Chennithala with mentor K Karunakaran at his wedding

Former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi attends Chennithala's wedding

Chennithala during a protest march

Opposition's Sharpest Voice

As Leader of the Opposition, Chennithala repositioned himself as a watchdog. "The most important issue I raised was the Sprinklr deal," he says, referring to the data controversy during the pandemic. "I came with ample proof. Without proof, I have never raised anything."

He claims that by raising seven to ten major allegations, he helped prevent a loss of over `5,000 crore of public money. He points to controversies relating to breweries, distilleries, deep sea fishing proposals, the BEVCO app and alleged sand smuggling. "It was my duty to raise these issues and tell the government to correct them. I have done it successfully."

Yet, he draws a line between confrontation and obstruction. "During the floods, I travelled with the Chief Minister in the helicopter to see the worst-hit areas. During the crisis, I stood with him. But when corruption issues came, I stood firmly against him." Opposition, in his view, is not antagonism for its own sake. It is a constitutional responsibility.

On the Question of Next Chief Ministership

With Assembly elections approaching, the question inevitably arises: does he see himself as Chief Minister? "That is for the party to decide," he says carefully. What distinguishes him from others? "It is not for me to answer. The people of Kerala should decide whether I am capable or not." On whether the Congress should project a chief ministerial face before elections, he reiterates party tradition. "First you win the election. Then the MLAs and the High Command will decide. That is what Rahul Gandhi has told us."

'State at a Tipping Point'

When the conversation shifts to Kerala's present challenges, his tone sharpens. "The migration of students and youngsters is a major issue. Kerala has now become like an old age home," he says. "If these issues are not solved, our future will be in darkness."

He argues that youth seek leadership that understands their anxieties and aspirations. In his view, many find resonance in the politics of Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi because they sense a generational connection. His 10-year vision blends infrastructure and social philosophy: developed waterways, modern ports, improved road and communication networks, high-speed rail, and an unwavering commitment to secular values.

"Social amity and secular values must be protected," he says. Kerala's progress, he argues, is rooted in reformist traditions shaped by spiritual leaders like Sree Narayana Guru and Chattambi Swamikal.

People's Leader

When asked how he would like to be remembered, Chennithala's answer is uncomplicated. "When history looks back at me, I want to be remembered as a people's man," he says. "I am with the people 24x7. Even if I have power or not, I am with the people." For the last five years, he notes, he has not held any specific post. "But still, I am with them." For him, legacy is not anchored to a designation. It is tied to presence. Accessibility. Continuity. From leased paddy fields in a food-scarce Kerala to ministerial chambers and opposition benches, his journey has moved across roles and decades. Yet the thread he emphasises is constant: once he accepts responsibility, he pursues it fully. Whether he occupies higher office in the future will depend on electoral arithmetic and party decisions. But in his own telling, public life is not defined by the heights one reaches, but by the steadiness with which one serves. And in that steadiness lies the story of Ramesh Chennithala.

(Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in this feature are solely those of A. Prajinbabu DCC General Secretary Thiruvananthapuram and does not reflect the official policy or position of this newspaper, its affiliates, or any other entities associated with it)